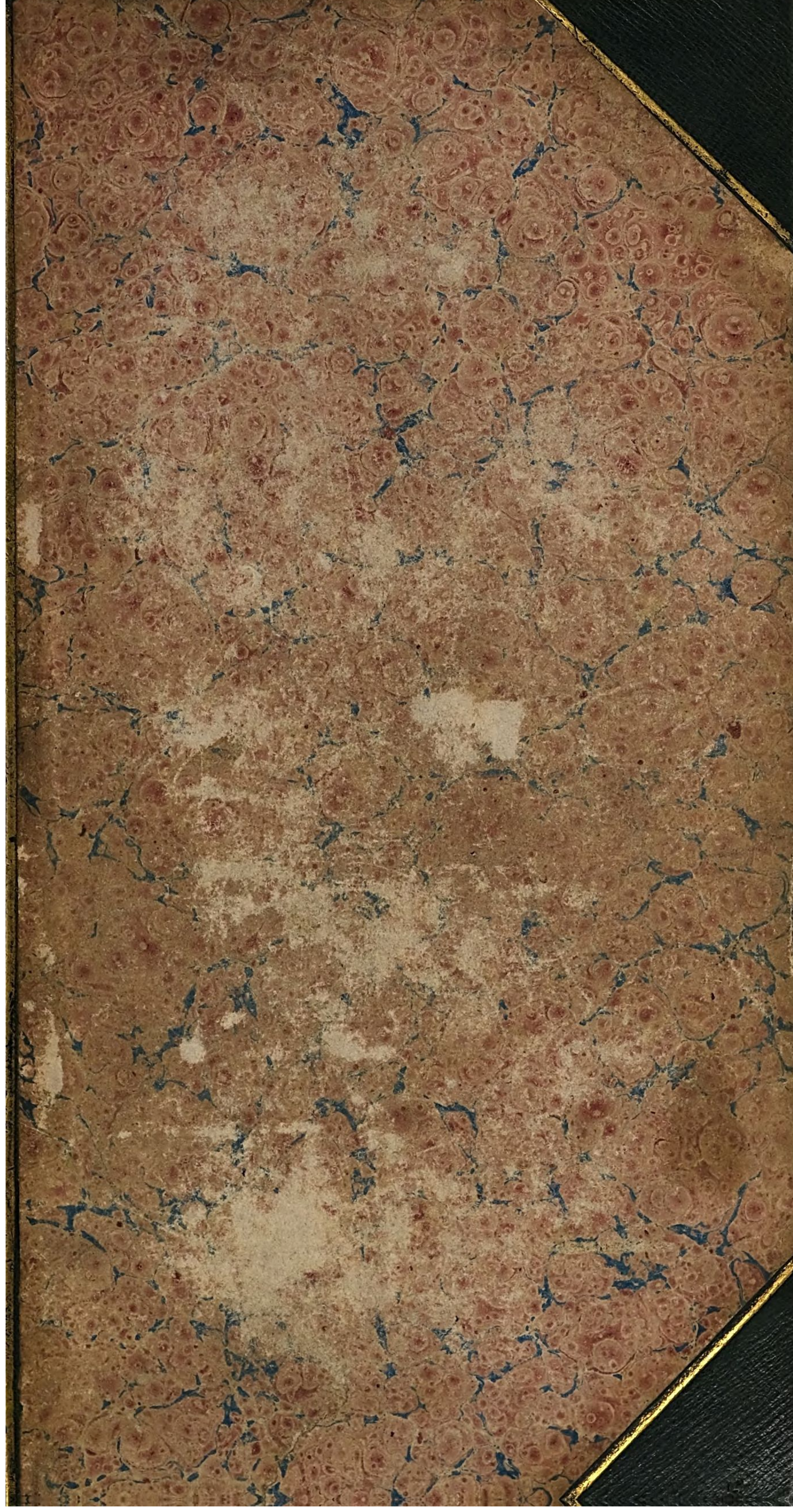
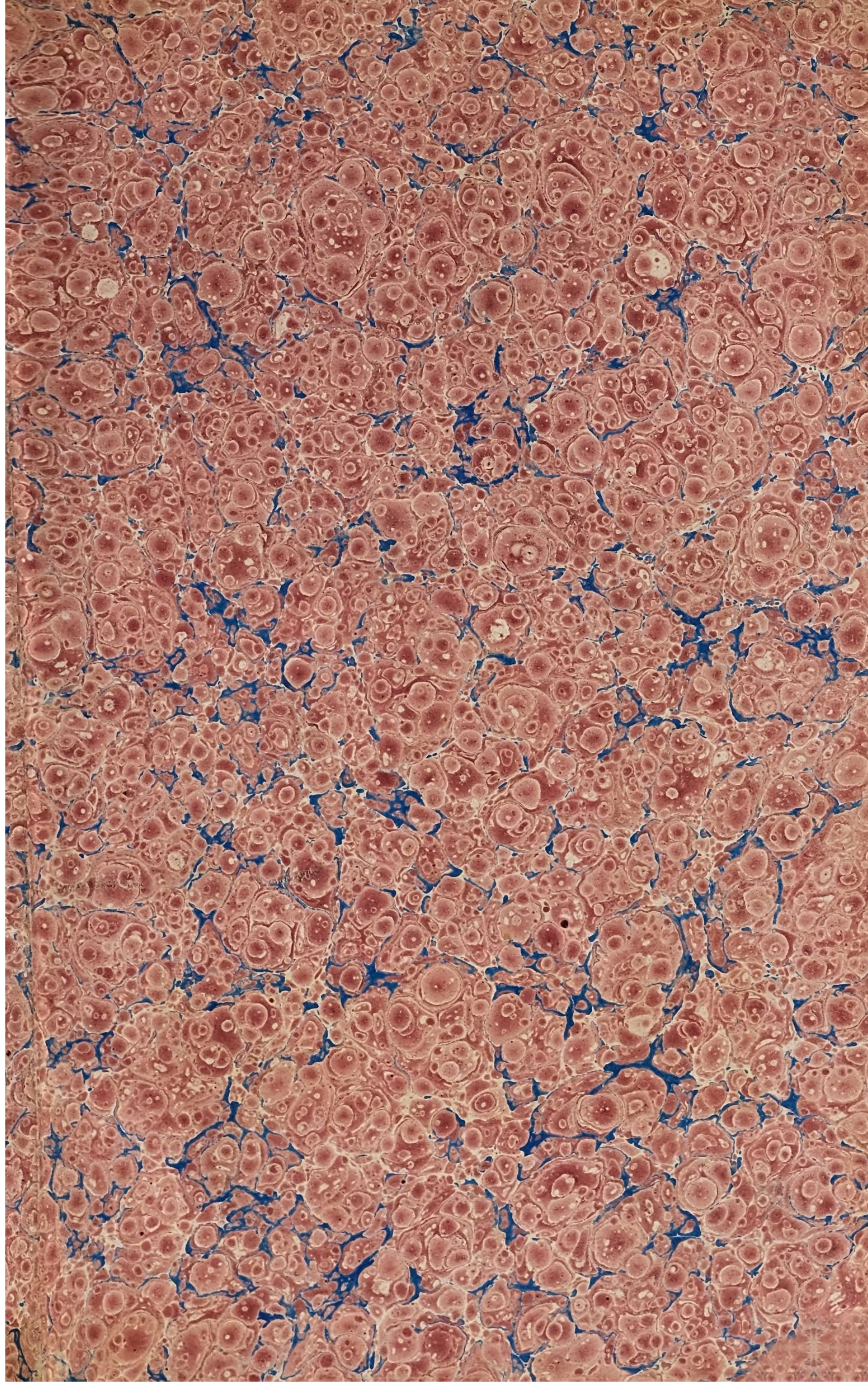


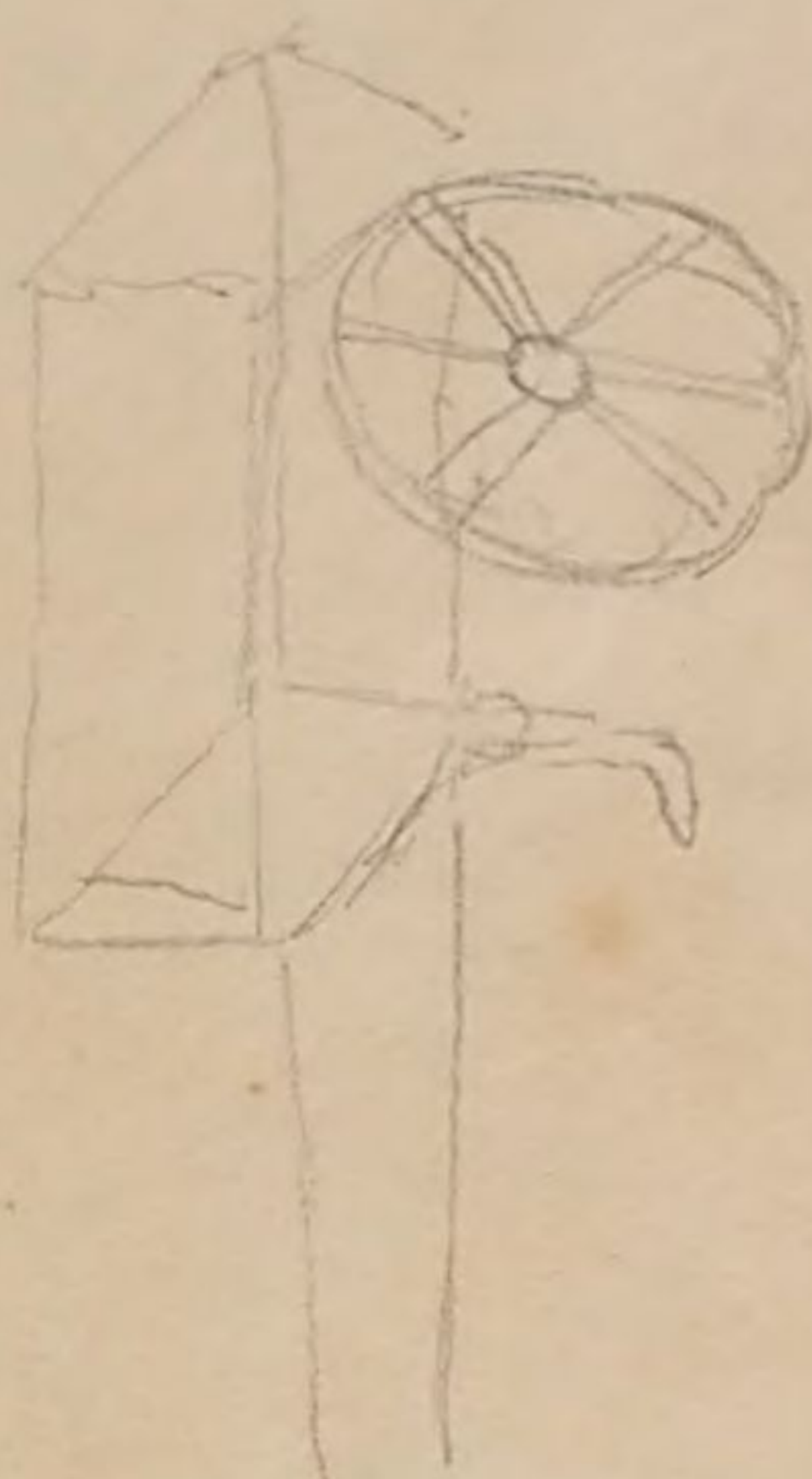




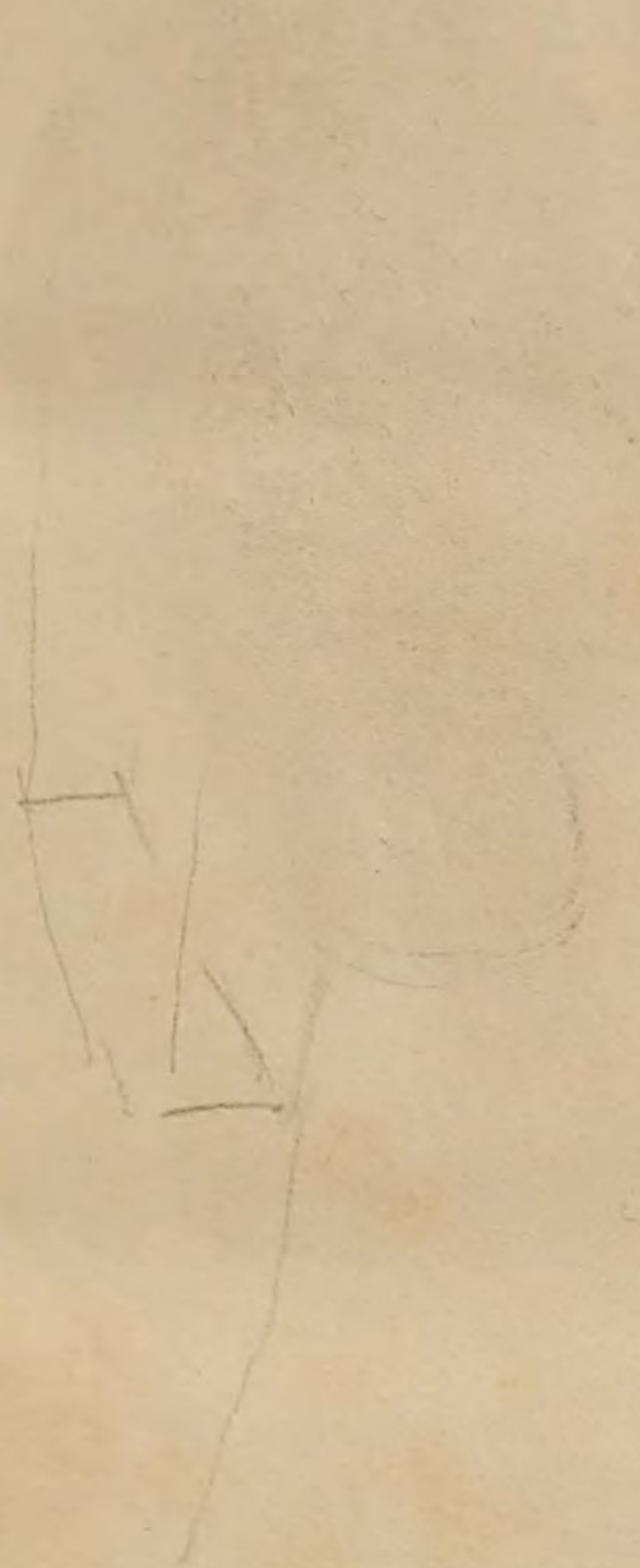
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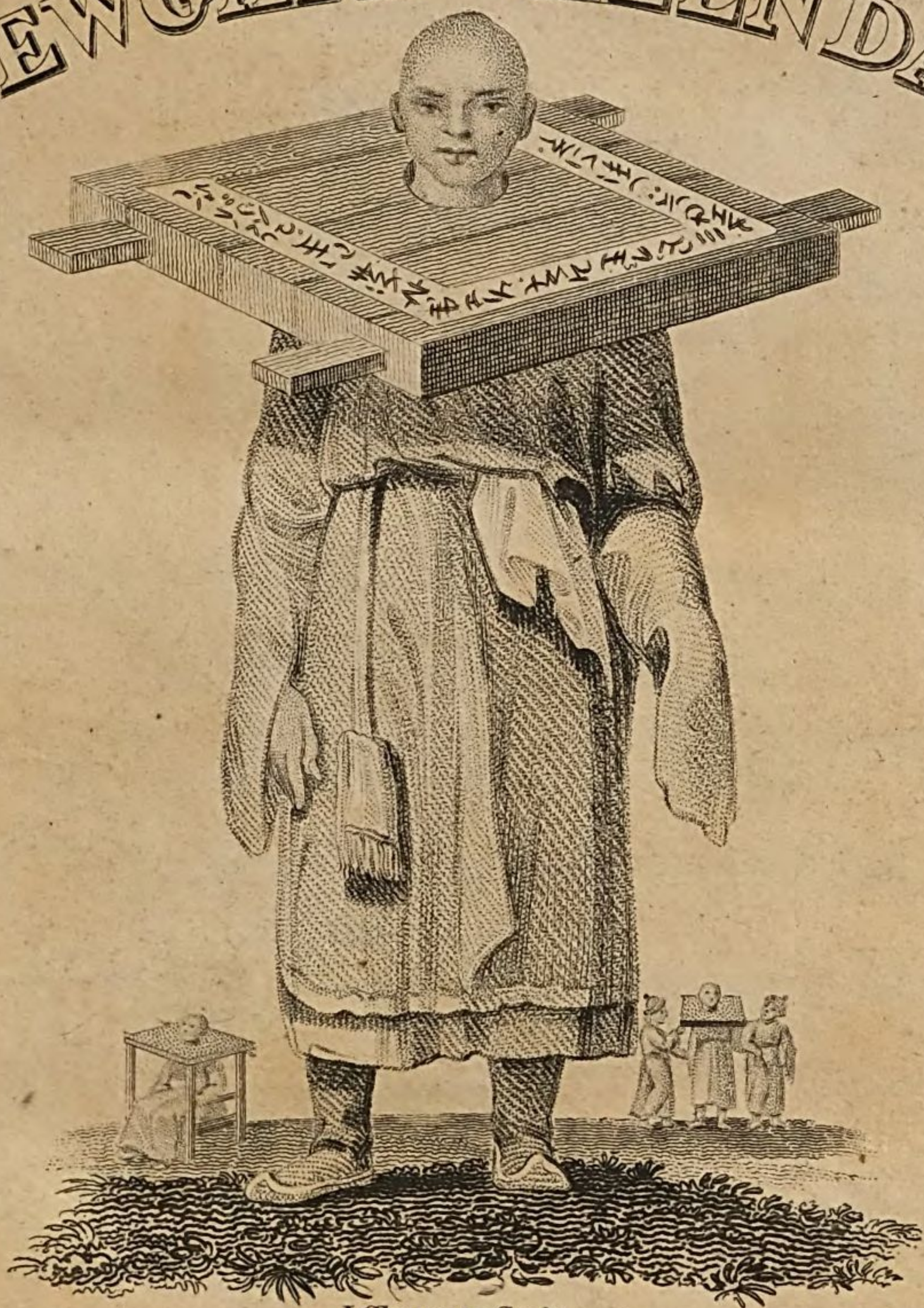
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For D. Hughson's Description of London.

TRAITORS GATE, TOWER OF LONDON.

Published by J. Robins & Co. Albion Press, Ivy Lane London.

NEWGATE CALENDAR,



J Chapman Sculp.

THE COLLAR, A CHINESE PUNISHMENT.

VOL. 2.

London

Published by J. Robins & Co. Albion Press.

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DURING THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY, BROUGHT DOWN TO THE PRESENT TIME.
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ATTORNIES AT LAW.

IN FIVE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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THE NEW Revised Edition

NOTORIOUS CHARACTERS

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THE LAKE OF KATLA, A STORY OF THE NORTH SEA
AND THE NORTH SEA

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THE NEW
NEWGATE CALENDAR,

&c. &c.

ABRAHAM WELLS,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN MAY 30, 1739, FOR HORSE-STEALING.

ALL the accounts which we found of this criminal agree that he was such a dunce, when a boy, that though he had the chance of a common school education, he could not be taught even to read and write; and as a man, he was idle and extravagant. He was the son of an honest man, a carpenter at Enfield, who bound him to a butcher, at his native place, where he engaged in business for himself, and sold considerable quantities of meat by wholesale, at the London markets. He paid his addresses to a widow of some fortune, whom he married; but she prudently reserved a part of her property to her own use.

When Wells had been married some time, he became so uneasy that his wife opposed his extravagance, that, being unhappy at home, he kept bad company, though it was some years before he committed the crime for which he lost his life.

A man being indicted at the Old Bailey for horse-stealing, Wells became an evidence in his favour, but his testimony was of such a nature, that he was committed to Newgate for perjury, and not released till he had suffered six months' imprisonment, and paid a fine.

He had now repeated quarrels with his wife and her
A 2 relations;

relations ; in consequence of which he neglected his business, so that he lost the greater part of his customers. Thus distressed in mind and circumstances, he stole a horse from a field near Edmonton, which he took to Smithfield Market, and offered for sale ; but the owner of the horse having repaired to London before him, had him taken into custody on the spot, and carried before a magistrate, who committed him to prison.

Previous to his trial he caused some of his relations to be served with subpoenas, to give evidence respecting him, and among the rest two of his wife's brothers ; but these men instead of endeavouring to alleviate his distress, represented him to the court as a man of abandoned character, who had long since deserved the severest sentence of the law : nay, so virulent was their malice, that they told the court the circumstance of his having been committed for perjury, as above-mentioned. This conduct was justly censured by the judges, who represented the cruelty of their endeavouring to injure a man whom they were called in to serve : and observed that with regard to the perjury, he had already suffered the sentence of the law, so that it had no reference to the case in hand.

The evidence against him being clear and positive, conviction followed of course, and he received sentence of death.

After conviction he spoke with the utmost bitterness of reproach, respecting the conduct of his wife and relations ; and though the former repeatedly went to Newgate, he constantly refused to see her, till within a few days of his death, when the approaching horror of his fate seemed to have made such an impression on his mind, that he consented to receive her visit.

On their first meeting they wrung their hands in an agony of grief, but floods of tears coming to their relief, their affliction in some degree subsided : and when they mutually recriminated on each other ; the wife abused the husband for ruining his family ; and he said that she had been the occasion of his present misfortunes.

On her next visit he again censured her conduct ; on which she charged him with having associated with another woman ; but this he solemnly denied, on the word
of

of a dying man ; and averred that the affair had no foundation but in the jealousy of her own disposition. The Ordinary of Newgate now interposed, and represented to Mrs. Wells the extreme impropriety of censuring a man in her husband's unhappy circumstances.

On the day before his death his mind was agitated to such a degree, that it was thought he might be guilty of suicide, on which a man was engaged to be with him, to prevent the dreadful consequences : but his mind soon became more composed, and he employed himself in exercises of devotion.

When he arrived at the fatal tree, he lamented the errors of his past life in the most affecting manner : but even at that solemn period he could not help reflecting on his wife's relations, who, he said, had promoted his ruin.

JAMES CALDCLOUGH,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JULY 2, 1739, FOR ROBBERY.

THE city of Durham gave birth to this offender, who was the son of people of fair character, who having given him a decent education, put him apprentice to a shoemaker, with whom he lived about three years, when having contracted a habit of idleness, and being attached to bad company, he quitted his master, and enlisted in the second regiment of foot-guards.

He had not been long in London before he became acquainted with a fellow named Thomas, who offered to put him into an easy way of getting money ; and Caldcough, listening to his invitation, dined with Thomas and some of his associates, on a Sunday, at a public-house ; and afterwards attended them to Newington-Green, where they continued drinking for some time, and at the approach of evening set out towards London with a view of robbing such persons as they might meet.

As they crossed the fields towards Hoxton, they stopped a gentleman, whom they robbed of a watch, and some silver, and tying him to a gate, they retired to a public-house,

house in Brick-Lane, Old-Street, where they spent the night in riot and drunkenness.

Caldclough being a young fellow of genteel appearance, and remarkable spirit, his accomplices advised him to commence highwayman; but none of them having money to purchase horses, and other necessities to equip them in a genteel manner, it was determined that two of the gang should commit a robbery which might put them in a way of committing others.

With this view they went into Kent, and stole two horses, which they placed at a livery-stable near Moorfields: after which the gang went in a body to Welling, in Hertfordshire, where they broke open a house, and stole about fourteen pounds in money and some things of value, which furnished them with clothes, and the other requisities for their intended expedition.

Thus provided, they rode to Enfield Chace, where they robbed the passengers in a stage-coach of their watches and money; and soon afterwards stopped another coach in the road to Epping-Forest, from which they got a large booty, which they divided at their place of meeting in Brick-Lane, Old-Street, and spent the night in licentious revelry.

But a short time had passed after this robbery, when Caldclough and one of his companions rode to Epping-Forest, and having stopped a coach in which were two gentlemen and a young lady; a servant that was behind the coach would have attacked the robbers, but that the gentlemen desired him to desist, that the young lady might not be terrified. The gentlemen then gave the robbers their money, apologizing for the smallness of the sum, and saying that they should have been welcome to more had it been in their possession.

As they were riding towards London, after committing this robbery, they quitted their horses and fastened them to a tree, in order, to rob the Woodford stage-coach, which they observed to be full of passengers: but the coachman suspecting their intent, drove off with such expedition, that they could not overtake the carriage.

Disappointed in this attempt they rode towards Wansstead, where they saw another coach, the passengers in
which

which they intended to have robbed : but as a number of butchers from London rode close behind the carriage, they thought proper to desist from so dangerous an attempt.

Thus disappointed of the expected booty, Caldcrough and Thomas, on the following day, which was Sunday, rode to Stamford-Hill, where they robbed three persons of their watches, and about four pounds in cash. Flushed with this success they determined to put every person they should meet under contribution : in consequence of which they robbed seven persons more before they reached London, from whom they obtained about ten guineas, with which they retired to the old place of resort in Brick-Lane.

Soon after this they rode to Finchley Common, where meeting with only empty carriages, they were returning to London, when they met the Barnet coach, near Islington, and robbed the company of about fifteen shillings. On the following day they collected six shillings and sixpence from another of the Barnet coaches, and nine shillings from the Highgate stage, on their return to town : and this was the whole of the poor booty they obtained this day, at the imminent risk of their lives.

A few days afterwards Caldcrough and another of the gang stopped a person of very decent appearance near Hackney, and demanded his money : but the gentleman, bursting into tears, said he was in circumstances of distress, and possessed only eighteen pence ; on which, instead of robbing him, they made him a present of half a crown ; a proof that sentiments of humanity may not be utterly banished, even from the breast of a thief. On their return to town they robbed a man of fourteen shillings, and then went to their old place of retreat.

On the day after this transaction they went to the Red-Lion alehouse, in Aldersgate-Street, where having drank all day, and being unable to pay the reckoning, they called for more liquor, and then quitted the house, saying that they would soon return. Going immediately towards Islington, they met a gentleman, to whom they said that they wanted a small sum to pay their reckoning. On this the gentleman called out thieves !
and

and made all possible resistance; notwithstanding which they robbed him of a gold watch, which they carried to town and pawned, and then going to the alehouse, defrayed the expenses of the day.

In a little time after this, one of the gang sold the two horses which had been stolen as above-mentioned, and appropriated the money to his own use; after which he went into the country, and spent some time with his relations; but finding it difficult to abstain from his old practices, he wrote to Caldcrough, desiring he would meet him at St. Alban's, where it was probable a good booty might be obtained.

Caldcrough obeyed the summons; and, on his arrival, found that the scheme was to rob the pack-horses * belonging to the Coventry carrier. The man drinking at a house near St. Alban's, and permitting the horses to go forward, Caldcrough and his accomplice, who had hid themselves behind a hedge, rushed out and stopped the horses; and having robbed the packages to the amount of fifty pounds, carried their booty to London, where they disposed of it.

Having dissipated in extravagance the money acquired by this robbery, they went into Hertfordshire to rob a gentleman whom they had learnt was possessed of a considerable sum of money. Getting into the yard near midnight, the owner of the house demanded what business they had there; to which they replied, "Only to go through the yard;" whereupon the gentleman fired a gun, which, though it was loaded with powder only, terrified them so that they decamped without committing the intended robbery.

Caldcrough, and one of his accomplices named Robinson, being reduced to circumstances of distress, determined to make depredations on the road between London and Kensington. While they were looking out for prey, two gentlemen, named Swafford and Banks, were observed on the road behind them; but Mr. Swafford being at some distance before his companion Caldcrough and

* The usual mode of conveying goods from one part of the kingdom to another was, formerly, by means of pack-horses; but this has given place to road-waggons and canals.

Robinson, who were provided with hangers, robbed him of some silver : but not till they had first wounded him in a manner shocking to relate. They cut his nose almost from his face, and left him weltering in his blood.

Soon afterwards, Mr. Banks came up ; whom they robbed of five guineas ; and then hurrying towards Kensington, went over the fields to Chelsea, where they took a boat and crossed the Thames ; and walking to Lambeth, took another boat which carried them to Westminster.

In the mean time Mr. Banks, who had missed his friend, proceeded to Kensington, where he made inquiry for him ; but, finding that he had not reached that place, he was apprehensive that he might have been murdered ; and going back with a gentleman in search of him, they found him in the condition above described.

Mr. Swaffard was immediately removed to the house of a surgeon, where proper care being taken of him, he recovered his health, after a long series of diligent attendance ; but his wounds were of such a kind as totally to disfigure the features of his face, his nose having been cut so as to hang over his mouth.

The villains were taken into custody on the very day after the perpetration of this horrid deed, when Robinson being admitted an evidence against his accomplice, he was brought to trial at the next sessions, convicted, and received sentence of death.

After conviction he seemed to entertain no hopes of a pardon ; but appropriating all his time in contrition for the vices of his past life, prepared for futurity with all the zeal of one who appeared to be a sincere penitent.

He made the following speech to the surrounding multitude :

“ I humbly beg that all you young men whom I leave
“ behind me would take warning in time, and avoid bad
“ houses as well as bad company. Remember my dying
“ words, lest some of you come to the same end, which
“ I pray God you never may. What I am now going to
“ suffer is the just punishment for my crimes ; for although
“ I did not commit murder, yet I look upon myself equally
“ guilty, as the poor gentleman must have died had he
“ not met with assistance.

“ Were I able to make satisfaction to those whom I
 “ have wronged, I would do it ; but alas ! I cannot, and
 “ therefore I pray that they will forgive me. I hope my
 “ life will be at least some satisfaction, as I have nothing
 “ besides to give ; and as I die in charity with all man-
 “ kind, may the Lord Jesus receive my soul ! ”

THOMAS LYMPUS,

EXECUTED NEAR WELLS, IN SOMERSETSHIRE, SEPTEMBER 21, 1739, FOR
 ROBBING THE MAIL.

FROM serving as a messenger some years, to the general post office, this man formed the dangerous resolution of robbing of the mails. At this time, the vast property in circulation by means of the post was not, as at present, secured from being plundered by any lurking thief upon the road. The regulations that have been since adopted, for which the public are principally indebted to the exertions of Mr. Palmer, render it nearly an impossibility to rob the mails.

On the 21st of February, 1738, this public plunderer began his depredations by stopping the post-boy, bringing the Bath and Bristol mails, about seven o'clock in the evening, at the end of Sunning-lane, two miles north of Reading, in Berkshire.

For the apprehension of the robber, the Post Master General offered a reward of two hundred pounds, over and above the reward by act of Parliament for apprehending highwaymen ; or if any accomplices in the said robbery should make a discovery of the person who committed the act, such accomplice should be entitled to the reward of two hundred pounds, and also receive his Majesty's most gracious pardon. The advertisement described the robber to be a middle-sized man, wearing a great riding coat, with a white velvet or plush cape.

No sooner had Lympus rifled the bags of their most valuable contents, than he determined upon attempting to make his escape to France. For this purpose he hastened

tened to the nearest sea-port, and actually landed there, but not before the officers of justice got information of his flight. They pursued him to France, and demanded him to be delivered up to them as a national robber; but flying to the sanctuary of the church, and declaring himself a Roman Catholic, he received protection, and for a while evaded the offended laws of his own country.

There is ever to be found in such as fly for a heinous crime, after some time passed abroad in safety, a desire to return, which in vain they struggle to suppress. We shall, in the course of this work, adduce instances of this nature, where, after many years had expired since the commission of their crime, men have returned, and either surrendered, or placed themselves so as to favour their apprehension; which would really seem as though their minds would not permit them any peace in this world. So it was, in some measure, with T. Lympus, the malefactor now recorded, who could not rest with his booty in France, but returned in a short time, for farther plunder, and immediately committed another mail robbery, for which he was apprehended, and brought to trial.

It appeared by the evidence of the post-boy, that he was stopped by the prisoner on horseback, between the towns of Crewkern and Sherborne, who compelled him to dismount, then bound him, hand and foot, and rode off with the mail, containing twenty-four bags, from as many post-towns.

Having taken out the bank notes, he again contemplated an escape to France, and for that purpose again embarked; but the winds were no longer propitious to his hopes, for the vessel was driven back, and obliged to put into Dartmouth. Here he offered one of the stolen notes in payment, and which being indorsed by one Follet, of Topsham, as described in the account of the robbery, he was suspected of being the robber. Apprehending himself to be in danger, he immediately decamped, and was making the best of his way towards Kingsbridge, but was pursued by seven men, who took him on a warrant being granted for that purpose. He was convicted of this robbery, and after much equivocation, since sentence of death, he confessed his robbing the Bristol mail, a little

more than a year before, and impeached one Patrick, a dealer in hops, as his accomplice.

He was executed on the top of Dunkit-hill, within a mile of Wells, in Somersetshire, and affected to die professing the religion he had adopted in France.

Curious as this case is, we found no regular report of it in the old books.

The security now given to our modern mail coaches, rendering an open attempt on them almost impracticable, unless attacked by a banditti of robbers; recourse has frequently been had to artifice, in order to get possession of the mail. One of these tricks was thus played off with success:

It was customary to deposit the mail-bags at a private house in Castle-street, Reading, near to which the horses belonging to the mail are changed. The guard announces the approach of the mail to the inn, by sounding his horn, and whilst the horses are putting to, he goes to the receiving house and exchanges his bags. A horn was sounded in the street, quite late in the evening of the 26th of January, 1806, and soon after a man called for the downward bag, which was delivered to him as usual, out of a window, and in return for which, he gave a bag, which was afterwards found to contain shavings. The robbery was discovered soon after by the arrival of the mail, but not till the villains had effected their escape.

THOMAS BARKWITH.

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DECEMBER 21, 1739, FOR HIS FIRST ROBBERY.

THIS is one of the most lamentable cases we have met with. Here we find an amiable young man, of high erudition, through the allurements of a coquette, a character both despicable and dangerous, driven to commit a disgraceful deed, in order to supply the expenses which she incurred. Females may learn the danger of affecting to encourage the advances of the other sex, in the fate of Barkwith; to guard against extravagance, and, where they

they suspect that pleasures are too expensive, to practise the virtue of self-denial.

This unfortunate young gentleman was the descendant of a respectable family in the Isle of Ely. At a very early period of life he was observed to possess a strength of understanding greatly beyond what could be expected at his years; and this determined his father to add to such extraordinary gifts of nature the advantages of a liberal education; nor was the necessary attention omitted to impress upon his mind a just idea of the principles of religion, and the absolute necessity of practical virtue.

Before the young gentleman had arrived at his fourteenth year, he attained to a great proficiency in the Greek, Latin, French, and Italian languages; and he afforded an indisputable proof of the depth of his penetration, and the brilliancy of his fancy, in the production of a variety of poetical and prose essays. His figure was pleasing, and improved by a graceful deportment; his manner of address was insinuating, and he excelled in the arts of conversation. It will, then, naturally be imagined, that these qualifications, added to his extensive knowledge in the several branches of polite literature, could not fail to render him an object of esteem and admiration.

Soon after he had passed his fourteenth year, he received an invitation to visit an aunt residing in the metropolis. He had not been many days at this lady's house, before he became equally conspicuous, throughout the whole circle of her acquaintance, on the score of his mental powers and personal qualifications: and he was dissuaded by his friends from returning into the country, it being their unanimous opinion, that London was, of all others, the place where opportunities would be most likely to occur, which the youth might improve to the advancement of his fortune.

A short time after his arrival in the metropolis, he procured a recommendation to a master in chancery of high reputation and extensive practice; and this gentleman appointed him to the superintendence of that department of his business which related to money matters. In this office he acquitted himself entirely to the satisfaction of his

his employer, who considered him as a youth in whom he might safely repose an unlimited confidence. He possessed the particular esteem of all those who had the happiness of his acquaintance; and it was their common opinion that his fine talents, and great capacity for business, could not fail to introduce him to some considerable station in life.

The gentleman in whose service Barkwith had engaged being under the necessity of going into Wales, on some business respecting an estate there, he commissioned Barkwith to receive the rents of a number of houses in London.

In the neighbourhood of the solicitor lived a young lady, of whom Barkwith had for some time been passionately enamoured: and immediately upon the departure of the former for Wales, he determined to avail himself of the first opportunity of making a declaration of honourable love.

Though the young lady did not mean to unite herself in marriage with Mr. Barkwith, yet she encouraged his addresses; and to his disingenuous conduct is to be attributed the fatal reverse of his fortune, from the most flattering prospect of acquiring a respectable situation in the world, to the dreadful event of suffering an ignominious death at Tyburn.

So entirely was his attention engrossed by the object of his love, that his master's most important business was wholly neglected: and he appeared to have no object in view but that of ingratiating himself into the esteem of his mistress; to gratify whose extravagance and vanity he engaged in expenses greatly disproportioned to his income, by making her valuable presents, and accompanying her to the theatres, balls, assemblies, and other places of public entertainment. In short, he was continually proposing parties of pleasure; and she had too little discretion to reject such invitations as flattered the levity of her disposition, and yielded satisfaction to her immoderate fondness for scenes of gaiety.

Upon the return of the solicitor, he found the affairs which he had entrusted to Barkwith, in a very embarrassed situation; and upon searching into the cause of this unexpected

expected and alarming circumstance, it was discovered that the infatuated youth had embezzled a considerable sum. The gentleman having made a particular inquiry into the conduct of Barkwith, received such information as left but little hopes of his reformation ; and therefore he, though reluctantly, yielded to the dictates of prudence, and resolved to employ him no longer : but, after having dismissed him from his service, he omitted no opportunity of shewing him instances of kindness and respect ; and generously exerted his endeavours to render him offices of friendship, and promote his interest on every occasion that offered.

Barkwith now hired chambers, in order to transact law business on his own account ; but as he had not been admitted an attorney, he was under the necessity of acting under the sanction of another person's name ; whence it may be concluded that his practice was not very extensive. He might, however, by a proper attention to his business, and a moderate economy in his expenses, have retrieved his affairs in a very short time ; but unhappily his intercourse with the young lady was still continued, and he thought no sacrifice too great for convincing her of the ardour of his affection.

He resided at his chambers about six months. Being arrested for a considerable sum, he put in bail to the action ; and though he paid the money before the writ became returnable, his credit received a terrible shock from the news of his late misfortune being circulated among his creditors, who had not hitherto entertained the least suspicion of his being under pecuniary difficulties ; but they now became exceedingly importunate for him immediately to discharge their several demands.

Thus distressed, he made application to the persons whom he considered as his most valuable friends : but his hopes were disappointed, the whole he obtained amounting to a mere trifle : and what was particularly mortifying to him was, the repulse he met with from several on whom he had conferred considerable obligations.

His necessities were so pressing as to drive him almost to desperation : but it must be observed that his greatest distress was occasioned by the reflection that he was no longer

longer in a capacity to indulge his mistress in that perpetual succession of pleasurable amusements to which she had been so long familiarized. The idea that poverty would render him contemptible in the opinion of his acquaintance, and that he should be no longer able to gratify the inclinations of the object on whom his warmest affections were fixed, was too mortifying for the pride of Barkwith to endure; and therefore he determined upon a desperate expedient, by which he vainly imagined that he should be enabled to provide for some pressing exigencies, flattering himself that before his expected temporary supply would be exhausted, a favourable turn would take place in his affairs, and remove every incitement to a repetition of guilt.

Barkwith took horse in the morning of the 13th of November, pretending that he was going to Denham, in Buckinghamshire, in order to transact some important business in relation to an estate which was to devolve to a young lady then in her minority. It is not now known whether he went to Denham; but about four o'clock in the afternoon he stopped a coach upon Hounslow-heath, and robbed a gentleman who was in the vehicle of a sum in silver not amounting to twenty shillings.

In a short time a horseman came up, who was informed by the coachman that his master had been robbed by Barkwith, who was yet in sight. The horseman immediately rode to an adjacent farm-house, where he procured pistols, and persuaded a person to accompany him in search of the highwayman, whom, in about a quarter of an hour, they overtook, being separated from him only by a hedge. The gentleman now, pointing a pistol at Barkwith, said, if he did not surrender, he would instantly shoot him; upon which the robber urged his horse to the creature's utmost speed, and continued to gain so much ground, that he would have escaped, had he not alighted to recover his hat, which had blown off: he regained the saddle, but soon observed that the delay occasioned by dismounting had enabled his pursuers nearly to overtake him, he again quitted his horse, hoping to elude the pursuit by crossing the fields.

In order to facilitate his escape, he disencumbered himself

self of his great-coat, but this circumstance raising the suspicion of some labouring people near the spot, they advanced to secure him, when he snapped two pistols at them; neither of them was loaded, but he thought the sight of fire-arms might perhaps deter the countrymen from continuing their pursuit. His frame being violently agitated, his spirits nearly exhausted, and there appearing but little probability of effecting an escape, he at length surrendered, saying to the people who surrounded him, that he was a gentleman heavily oppressed with misfortunes, and supplicating in the most pathetic terms that they would favor his escape: but his entreaties had no effect.

He was properly secured during that night, and the next morning conducted before a magistrate for examination. He was ordered to London, where he was re-examined, and then committed to Newgate.

He was tried at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, and condemned to suffer death. While he remained in Newgate, he conducted himself in a manner perfectly consistent with his unhappy circumstances: his unassuming and quiet behaviour secured him from the insults of his fellow-prisoners; and upon such of them as were not absolutely callous to the stings of conscience, the sincerity of his repentance had a favourable effect.

He was conveyed to Tyburn, on the 21st of December, 1739. He prayed to Almighty God with great fervency, and exhorted young people carefully to avoid engaging in expenses disproportioned to their incomes; saying that the perpetrator of villainy, however successful, was continually in a state of insupportable misery, through the silent upbraidings of an internal monitor; and that, though justice was for a time eluded, imagination never failed to anticipate all the horrors attendant on public ignominy and a violent death.

EDWARD JOINES,

EXECUTED FOR THE MURDER OF HIS WIFE, DECEMBER 21, 1739.

THOUGH nothing can be offered in extenuation for the horrid crime of murder, yet provocation and passion, fermenting a sudden madness, have sometimes precipitated men to do an act, which has plunged them into an abyss of mental misery. Contemplating such effects, we are willing to make some allowance for the commission of this murder. Had not the perpetrator been goaded by the unbridled tongue of his wife, abetted by that of his daughter-in-law,—and what domestic torments can be greater? we may conclude, that both might have lived the course of nature. This case should warn the matron not to irritate her husband; and should he, unhappily, break the bonds of prudence, we beseech her to recur alone to conciliation. Hard, indeed, is that man's heart who, in his cooler moments, will not listen to the soft remonstrances of a virtuous woman.

The parents of Edward Joines were respectable house-keepers in Ratcliffe-highway, who, being desirous that the boy should be qualified for business, placed him under the direction of a master of a day-school in Goodman's-fields, where he continued a regular attendance about five years, but without gaining any considerable improvement.

Soon after he had completed his fourteenth year, he was removed from the school, and his father informed him, that he was endeavouring to find some reputable tradesman who would take him as an apprentice: but the youth expressed an aversion to any occupation, but that of a gardener. Finding that he had conceived a strong prepossession in favour of this business, they bound him to a gardener in Stepney, whom he served, in an industrious and regular manner, for the space of seven years; and he, for some time afterwards, continued with the same master in the capacity of a journeyman, his parents being so reduced, through misfortunes, that they could not supply him with money to carry on business on his own account.

A short

A short time after the expiration of his apprenticeship, he married a milk-woman, by whom he had seven children in the course of twenty years, during which time he lived in an amicable manner with his wife, earning a tolerable subsistence by honest industry.

His children all died in their infancy, and upon the decease of his wife he procured employment at Bromley ; and that he might lose but little time in going to, and returning from, his work, he hired a lodging at the lower end of Poplar, in a house kept by a widow, with whom he, in a few days, contracted a criminal familiarity. They had lived together about a twelvemonth, jointly defraying the household expenses, when she, more frequently than usual, gave way to the natural violence of her temper, threatening that he should not continue in the house unless he would marry her : which he consented to do, and, adjourning to the Fleet, the ceremony was performed.

After their marriage their disagreements became more frequent and violent ; and upon the wife's daughter leaving her service, and coming to reside with them, she united with her mother in pursuing every measure that could tend to render the life of Joines insupportably miserable. On his return from work, one evening, a disagreement, as usual, took place, and being aggravated by her abusive language, he pushed her from him, and falling against the grate, her arm was much scorched. In consequence of this she swore the peace against him ; but when they appeared before the magistrate who had granted the warrant for the apprehension of Joines, they were advised to compromise their disagreement, to which they mutually agreed.

By an accidental fall, Mrs. Joines broke her arm, about a month after the above affair ; but timely application being made to a surgeon, she, in a short time, had every reason to expect a perfect and speedy recovery.

Joines being at a public-house, on a Sunday afternoon, the landlord observed his daughter-in-law carrying a pot of porter from another ale-house, and mentioned the circumstance to him, adding that the girl had been served with a like quantity at his house but a short time before. Being intoxicated, Joines took fire at what the publican

had imprudently said, and immediately went towards the house, which was on the opposite side of the street, with an intention of preventing his wife from drinking the liquor. He struck the pot out of her hand, and then seizing the arm that had been broke, twisted it till the bone again separated.

The fracture was again reduced ; but such unfavourable symptoms appeared, that an amputation was judged necessary for preserving the life of the patient. In a short time afterwards, however, she was supposed to be in a fair way of recovery ; and calling one day at the gardens where her husband was employed, she told his fellow-labourers that she had great hopes of her arm being speedily cured, adding, that she was then able to move her fingers with but very little difficulty.

The hopes of this unfortunate woman were falsely grounded : for on the following day she was so ill, that her life was judged to be very precarious. She sent for Joines from his work : and upon his coming to her bedside, he asked, if she had any accusation to allege against him ; upon which, shaking her head, she said, she would forgive him, and hoped the world would do so too. She expired the next night, and in the morning he gave some directions respecting the funeral, and then went to work in the gardens as usual, not entertaining the least suspicion that he should be accused as the cause of his wife's death ; but upon his return in the evening he was apprehended on suspicion of murder.

An inquest being summoned to inquire whether the woman was murdered, or died according to the course of nature, it appeared in evidence, that her death was occasioned by the second fracture of her arm ; the jury, therefore, brought in a verdict of wilful murder against Joines, who was, in consequence, committed to Newgate in order for trial.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, Joines was arraigned on an indictment for the wilful murder of his wife. In the course of the trial it appeared, that the prisoner had frequently forced the deceased into the street, at late hours of the night, without regard to her being without clothes, or the severity of the weather. The
surgeon

surgeon who attended her deposed, that a gangrene appeared on her arm, in consequence of its being broke the second time, which was indisputably the cause of her death.

Near three months had elapsed from the time of her arm being first broke, to that of her decease; but not more than ten days had passed from the second fracture to the consequent mortification. The law expresses that if a person, violently wounded, dies within twelve calendar months, the offender causing such wound, or wounds, shall be deemed guilty of a capital felony. As it was evident that his wife died in consequence of his cruelty, within the time limited by law, Joines was pronounced to be guilty of murder, and sentenced to suffer death.

During the confinement of Joines in Newgate, he did not appear to entertain a proper sense of his guilt. As his wife did not die immediately after the fracture of her arm, it was with difficulty he could be persuaded that the jury had done him justice in finding him guilty of murder. He had but a very imperfect notion of the principles of religion; but the ordinary of the prison took great pains to inspire him with a just sense of his duty towards his Creator. Though he was distressed for all the necessaries of life during the greatest part of his confinement, his daughter-in-law, who had taken possession of his house and effects, neglected either to visit him, or afford him any kind of assistance; and he was violently enraged against the young woman, on account of this behaviour. Joines suffered along with Thomas Barkwith.

MARY YOUNG, alias JENNY DIVER,

(The head of a numerous Gang of Thieves, of every Description, and may be called the female Macheath,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, MARCH 18, 1740.

A CHARACTER more skilled in the various arts of imposition and robbery we cannot expect to present to our readers than that of Mary Young. Her depredations, executed with the courage of a man, and the softer deceptions

ceptions of an artful female surpass any thing which we have, as yet, come to in our researches into crimes and punishments.

Mary Young was born in the North of Ireland; her parents were in indigent circumstances; and dying while she was in a state of infancy, she had no recollection of them.

At about ten years of age she was taken into the family of an ancient gentlewoman, who had known her father and mother, and who caused her to be instructed in reading, writing, and needle-work; and in the latter she attained to a proficiency unusual to girls of her age.

Soon after she had arrived to her fifteenth year, a young man, servant to a gentleman who lived in the same neighbourhood, made pretensions of love to her; but the old lady being apprized of his views, declared that she would not consent to their marriage, and positively forbade him to repeat his visits at her house.

Notwithstanding the great care and tenderness with which she was treated, Mary formed the resolution of deserting her generous benefactor, and of directing her course towards the metropolis of England; and the only obstacle to this design was, the want of money for her support till she could follow some honest means of earning a subsistence.

She had no strong prepossession in favor of the young man who had made a declaration of love to her; but she, determining to make his passion subservient to the purpose she had conceived, promised to marry him on condition of his taking her to London. He joyfully embraced this proposal, and immediately engaged for a passage in a vessel bound for Liverpool.

A short time before the vessel was to sail, the young man robbed his master of a gold watch and eighty guineas, and then joined the companion of his flight, who was already on board the ship, vainly imagining that his infamously acquired booty would contribute to the happiness he should enjoy with his expected bride. The ship arrived at the destined port in two days: and Mary being indisposed in consequence of her voyage, her companion hired a lodging in the least frequented part of the town, where

where they lived a short time in the character of man and wife, but avoiding all intercourse with their neighbours ; the man being apprehensive that measures would be pursued for rendering him amenable to justice.

Mary being restored to health, they agreed for a passage in a waggon that was to set out for London in a few days. On the day preceding that fixed for their departure, they accidentally called at a public-house, and the man being observed by a messenger dispatched in pursuit of him from Ireland, he was immediately taken into custody. Mary, who, a few hours before his apprehension, had received ten guineas from him, voluntarily accompanied him to the mayor's house, where he acknowledged himself guilty of the crime alleged against him, but without giving the least intimation that she was an accessory in his guilt. He being committed to prison, Mary sent him all his clothes, and part of the money she had received from him, and the next day took her place in the waggon for London. In a short time her companion was sent to Ireland, where he was tried, and condemned to suffer death ; but his sentence was changed to that of transportation.

Soon after her arrival in London, Mary contracted an acquaintance with one of her country-women, named Anne Murphy, by whom she was invited to partake of a lodging in Long-acre. Here she endeavoured to obtain a livelihood by her needle ; but not being able to procure sufficient employment, in a little time her situation became truly deplorable.

Murphy intimated to her, that she could introduce her to a mode of life that would prove exceedingly lucrative ; adding, that the most profound secrecy was required. The other expressed an anxious desire of learning the means of extricating herself from the difficulties under which she laboured, and made a solemn declaration that she would never divulge what Murphy should communicate. In the evening, Murphy introduced her to a number of men and women, assembled in a kind of club, near St. Giles's. These people gained their living by cutting off womens' pockets, and stealing watches, &c. from men in the avenues of the theatres, and at other places of public

public resort ; and, on the recommendation of Murphy, they admitted Mary a member of the society.

After Mary's admission, they dispersed, in order to pursue their illegal occupation ; and the booty obtained that night consisted of eighty pounds in cash, and a valuable gold watch. As Mary was not yet acquainted with the art of thieving, she was not admitted to an equal share of the night's produce ; but it was agreed that she should have ten guineas. She now regularly applied two hours every day in qualifying herself for an expert thief, by attending to the instructions of experienced practitioners ; and, in a short time, she was distinguished as the most ingenious and successful adventurer of the whole gang.

A young fellow of genteel appearance, who was a member of the club, was singled out by Mary as the partner of her bed ; and they cohabited for a considerable time as husband and wife.

In a few months our heroine became so expert in her profession, as to acquire great consequence among her associates, who, as we conceive, distinguished her by the appellation of Jenny Diver, on account of her remarkable dexterity ; and by that name we shall call her in the succeeding pages of this narrative.

Jenny, accompanied by one of her female accomplices, joined the crowd at the entrance of a place of worship in the Old Jewry, where a popular divine was to preach, and observing a young gentleman with a diamond ring on his finger, she held out her hand, which he kindly received in order to assist her ; and at this juncture she contrived to get possession of the ring, without the knowledge of the owner ; after which she slipped behind her companion, and heard the gentleman say, that as there was no probability of gaining admittance, he would return. Upon his leaving the meeting he missed his ring, and mentioned his loss to the persons who were near him, adding that he suspected it to be stolen by a woman whom he had endeavoured to assist in the crowd : but, as the thief was unknown, she escaped.

The above robbery was considered as such an extraordinary proof of Jenny's superior address, that her associates

ciates determined to allow her an equal share of all their booties, even though she was not present when they were obtained.

In a short time after the above exploit, she procured a pair of false hands and arms to be made; and concealing her real ones under her clothes, she then put something beneath her stays, to make herself appear as if in a state of pregnancy, she repaired on a Sunday evening to the place of worship above-mentioned, in a sedan chair, one of the gang going before, to procure a seat among the genteeler part of the congregation, and another attending in the character of a footman.

Jenny being seated between two elderly ladies, each of whom had a gold watch by her side, she conducted herself with great seeming devotion; but when the service was nearly concluded, she seized the opportunity, when the ladies were standing up, of stealing their watches, which she delivered to an accomplice in an adjoining pew. The devotions being ended, the congregation were preparing to depart, when the ladies discovered their loss, and a violent clamour ensued: one of the injured parties exclaimed, "that her watch must have been taken either "by the devil or the pregnant woman," on which, the other said, "she could vindicate the pregnant lady, whose hands "she was sure had not been removed from her lap during "the whole time of her being in the pew."

Flushed with the success of the above adventure, our heroine determined to pursue her good fortune; and as another sermon was to be preached the same evening, she adjourned to an adjacent public-house, where, without either pain or difficulty, she soon reduced the protuberance of her waist, and having entirely changed her dress, she returned to the meeting, where she had not remained long before she picked a gentleman's pocket of a gold watch, with which she escaped unsuspected.

Her accomplices also were industrious and successful: for, on a division of the booty obtained this evening, they each received thirty guineas. Jenny had now obtained an ascendancy over the whole gang, who, conscious of her superior skill in the arts of thieving, came to a resolution of yielding an exact obedience to her directions.

Jenny again assumed the appearance of a pregnant woman, and attended by an accomplice as a footman, went towards St. James's Park, on a day when the king was going to the House of Lords, and there being a great number of persons between the park and Spring-Gardens, she purposely slipped down, and was instantly surrounded by many of both sexes, who were emulous to afford her assistance; but, affecting to be in violent pain, she intimated to them that she was desirous of remaining on the ground till she should be somewhat recovered. As she expected, the crowd increased, and her pretended footman, and a female accomplice were so industrious as to obtain two diamond girdle-buckles, a gold watch, a gold snuff-box, and two purses, containing together upwards of forty guineas.

The girdle-buckles, watch, and snuff-box were the following day advertised, and a considerable reward was offered, and a promise given, that no questions should be asked the party who should restore the property. Anne Murphy offered to carry the things to the place mentioned in the advertisement, saying the reward offered exceeded what they would produce by sale: but, to this Jenny objected, observing, that she might be traced, and the association utterly ruined. She called a meeting of the whole gang, and informed them that she was of opinion that it would be more prudent to sell the things, even at one half of their real value, than to return them to the owners for the sake of the reward; as, if they pursued the latter measure, they should subject themselves to great hazard of being apprehended. Her associates coincided entirely in Jenny's sentiments, and the property was taken to Duke's-place, and there sold to a jew.

Two of the gang being confined to their lodgings by illness, Jenny, and the man with whom she cohabited, generally went in company in search of adventures. They went together to Burr-street, Wapping, and observing a genteel house, the man, who acted as Jenny's footman, knocked at the door, and saying that his mistress was on a sudden taken extremely ill, begged she might be admitted; this was readily complied with, and while the mistress of the house and her maid-servant were gone

up

up stairs for such things as they imagined would afford relief to the supposed sick woman, she opened a drawer, and stole sixty guineas; and after this, while the mistress was holding a smelling-bottle to her nose, she picked her pocket of a purse, which, however, did not contain money to any considerable amount. In the mean time, the pretended footman, who had been ordered into the kitchen, stole six silver table spoons, a pepper-box, and a salt-cellar. Jenny, pretending to be somewhat recovered, expressed the most grateful acknowledgments to the lady, and, saying she was the wife of a capital merchant in Thames-street, invited her in the most pressing terms to dinner on an appointed day, and then went away in a hackney-coach, which, by her order, had been called to the door by her pretended servant.

She practised a variety of felonies of a similar nature in different parts of the metropolis and its environs; but the particulars of the above transaction being inserted in the news-papers, people were so effectually cautioned, that our adventurer was under the necessity of employing her invention upon the discovery of other methods of committing depredations on the public.

The parties, whose illness we have mentioned, being recovered, it was resolved that the whole gang should go to Bristol in search of adventures, during the fair, which is held in that city every summer; but being unacquainted with the place, they deemed it good policy to admit into their society, a man who had long subsisted there by villanous practices.

Being arrived at the place of destination, Jenny and Anne Murphy assumed the characters of merchant's wives, the new member and another of the gang appeared as country traders, and our heroine's favourite retained his former character of footman. They took lodgings at different inns, and agreed that, if any of them should be apprehended, the others should endeavour to procure their release, by appearing to their characters, and representing them people of reputation in London. They had arrived to such a proficiency in their illegal occupation, that they were almost certain of accomplishing every scheme they suggested; and when it was inconvenient to

make use of words, they were able to convey their meaning to each other by winks, nods, and other intimations.

Being one day in the fair, they observed a west country clothier giving a sum of money to his servant, and heard him direct the man to deposit it in a bureau. They followed the servant, and one of them fell down before him, expecting that he would also fall, and that, as there was a great crowd, the money might be easily secured. Though the man fell into the channel, they were not able to obtain their expected booty, and therefore they had recourse to the following stratagem: one of the gang asked whether his master had not lately ordered him to carry home a sum of money; to which the other replied in the affirmative: the sharper then told him he must return to his master, who had purchased some goods, and waited to pay for them.

The countryman followed him to Jenny's lodging, and being introduced to her, she desired him to be seated, saying his master was gone on some business in the neighbourhood, but had left orders for him to wait till his return. She urged him to drink a glass of wine, but the poor fellow repeatedly declined her offers with awkward simplicity; the pretended footman having taught him to believe her a woman of great wealth and consequence. However, her encouraging solicitations conquered his bashfulness, and he drank till he became intoxicated. Being conducted into another apartment, he was soon fast locked in the arms of sleep, and while in that situation, he was robbed of the money he had received from his master, which proved to be a hundred pounds. They were no sooner in possession of the cash, than they discharged the demand of the inn-keeper, and set out in the first stage for London.

Soon after their return to town, Jenny and her associates went to London-bridge in the dusk of the evening, and observing a lady standing at a door to avoid the carriages, a number of which were passing, one of the men went up to her, and under pretence of giving her assistance, seized both her hands, which he held till his accomplices had rifled her pockets of a gold snuff-box, a silver case,

case, containing a set of instruments, and thirty guineas in cash.

On the following day, as Jenny and an accomplice, in the character of a footman, were walking through Change-alley, she picked a gentleman's pocket of a bank-note for two hundred pounds, for which she received one hundred and thirty pounds from a jew, with whom the gang had very extensive connections.

Our heroine now hired a real footman, and her favourite, who had long acted in that character, assumed the appearance of a gentleman. She hired lodgings in the neighbourhood of Covent-garden, that she might more conveniently attend the theatres. She proposed to her associates to reserve a tenth part of the general produce for the support of such of the gang as might, through illness, be rendered incapable of following their iniquitous occupations; and to this they readily assented.

Jenny dressed herself in an elegant manner, and went to the theatre one evening, when the king was to be present; and, during the performance, she attracted the particular attention of a young gentleman of fortune from Yorkshire, who declared, in the most passionate terms, that she had made an absolute conquest of his heart, and earnestly solicited the favour of attending her home. She at first declined a compliance, saying she was newly married, and that the appearance of a stranger might alarm her husband. At length, she yielded to his entreaty, and they went together in a hackney-coach, which set the young gentleman down in the neighbourhood where Jenny lodged, after he had obtained an appointment to visit her in a few days, when she said her husband would be out of town.

Upon Jenny's joining her companions, she informed them that while she remained at the play-house she was only able to steal a gold snuff-box; and they appeared to be much dissatisfied on account of her ill-success: but their good humour returned upon learning the circumstances of the adventure with the young gentleman, which they had no doubt would prove exceedingly profitable.

The day of appointment being arrived, two of the
gang

gang appeared equipped in elegant liveries, and Anne Murphy acted as waiting-maid. The gentleman came in the evening, having a gold-headed cane in his hand, a sword with a gold hilt by his side, and wearing a gold watch in his pocket, and a diamond ring on his finger.

Being introduced to her bed-chamber, she contrived to steal her lover's ring; and he had not been many minutes undressed before Anne Murphy rapped at the door, which being opened, she said with an appearance of the utmost consternation, that her master was returned from the country. Jenny, affecting to be under a violent agitation of spirits, desired the gentleman to cover himself entirely with the bed clothes, saying she would convey his apparel into another room, so, that if her husband came there, nothing would appear to awaken his suspicion: adding, that under pretence of indisposition, she would prevail upon her husband to sleep in another bed, and then return to the arms of her lover.

The clothes being removed, a consultation was held, when it was agreed by the gang that they should immediately pack up all their moveables, and decamp with their booty, which, exclusive of the cane, watch, sword, and ring, amounted to an hundred guineas.

The amorous youth waited in a state of the utmost impatience till morning, when he rang the bell, which brought the people of the house to the chamber-door, but they could not gain admittance, the fair fugitive having turned the lock, and taken away the key; but the door being forced open, an eclairsissement ensued. The gentleman represented in what manner he had been treated; but the people of the house were deaf to his expostulations, and threatened to circulate the adventure throughout the town, unless he would indemnify them for the loss they had sustained. Rather than hazard the exposure of his character, he agreed to discharge the debt Jenny had contracted; and dispatched a messenger for clothes and money, that he might take leave of a house of which he had sufficient reason to regret having been an inhabitant.

Our heroine's share of the produce of the above adventure amounted to seventy pounds. This infamous association

association was now become so notorious a pest to society, that they judged it necessary to leave the metropolis, where they were apprehensive they could not long remain concealed from justice. They practised a variety of stratagems with great success in different parts of the country: but, upon re-visiting London, Jenny was committed to Newgate, on a charge of having picked a gentleman's pocket; for which, she was sentenced to transportation.

She remained in the above prison near four months, during which time, she employed a considerable sum in the purchase of stolen effects. When she went on board the transport-vessel, she shipped a quantity of goods, nearly sufficient to load a waggon. The property she possessed ensured her great respect, and every possible convenience and accommodation during the voyage; and on her arrival in Virginia she disposed of her goods, and for some time lived in great splendour and elegance.

She soon found that America was a country where she could expect but little emolument from the practices she had so successfully followed in England; and therefore she employed every art that she was mistress of to ingratiate herself into the esteem of a young gentleman who was preparing to embark on board a vessel bound for the port of London. He became much enamoured of her, and brought her to England: but while the ship lay at Gravesend, she robbed him of all the property she could get into her possession, and, pretending an indisposition, intimated a desire of going on shore, in which her admirer acquiesced; but she was no sooner on land than she made a precipitate retreat.

She now travelled through several parts of the country, and by her usual wicked practices obtained many considerable sums. At length, she returned to London, but was not able to find her former accomplices.

She now frequented the Royal Exchange, the theatres, London-bridge, and other places of public resort, and committed innumerable depredations on the public. Being detected in picking a gentleman's pocket upon London-bridge, she was taken before a magistrate, to whom she declared that her name was Jane Webb, and by that appellation she was committed to Newgate.

On

On her trial, a gentleman, who had detected her in the very act of picking the prosecutor's pocket, deposed, that a person had applied to him, offering fifty pounds on condition that he should not appear in support of the prosecution: and a lady swore, that on the day she committed the offence for which she stood indicted, she saw her pick the pockets of more than twenty different people. The record of her former conviction was not produced in court; and therefore, she was arraigned for privately stealing; and on the clearest evidence, the jury pronounced her guilty. The property being valued at less than one shilling, she was sentenced to transportation.

A twelvemonth had not elapsed before she returned from transportation a second time; and, on her arrival in London, she renewed her former practices.

A lady going from Sherborne-lane to Walbrook, was accosted by a man, who took her hand, seemingly as if to assist her in crossing some planks that were placed over the channel for the convenience of passengers; but he squeezed her fingers with so much force as to give her great pain, and in the mean time Jenny picked her pocket of thirteen shillings and a penny. The gentlewoman, conscious of being robbed, seized the thief by the gown, and she was immediately conducted to the compter. She was examined the next day by the lord-mayor, who committed her to Newgate in order for trial.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, she was tried on an indictment for privately stealing, and the jury brought in the verdict, "Guilty;" in consequence of which she received sentence of death.

After conviction, she seemed sincerely to repent of the course of iniquity in which she had so long persisted, punctually attending prayers in the chapel, and employing great part of her time in private devotions. The day preceding that on which she was executed, she sent for the woman who nursed her child, then about three years old, and after informing her that there was a person who would pay for the infant's maintenance, earnestly entreated that it might be carefully instructed in the duties

ties of religion, and guarded from all temptations to wickedness, and then acknowledging that she had long been a daring offender against the laws, both of God and man, entreated the woman to pray for the salvation of her soul; then took her leave, seeming to be deeply impressed with the sentiments of contrition.

On the following morning she appeared to be in a serene state of mind: but being brought into the press-yard, the executioner approached to put the halter about her, when her fortitude abated: but in a short time her spirits were again tolerably composed.

She was conveyed to Tyburn in a mourning-coach, being attended by a clergyman, to whom she declared her firm belief in all the principles of the Protestant religion.

At the place of execution she employed a considerable time in fervent prayer; and then her life was resigned a sacrifice to those laws which she had most daringly violated; and her remains were, by her particular desire, interred in St. Pancras church-yard.

We may, perhaps, fix the most dangerous period of life to be between the years of sixteen and twenty. As we approach towards maturity we grow impatient of controul, regardless of all advice that does not flatter the prevailing humour, and direct all our attention to a state of independency, which youthful imagination represents as the summit of human felicity, where no inconvenience can obtrude, but such as may, without difficulty, be repelled by the mere efforts of our own resolution.

The advice of a parent sinks into the mind with double weight: but we should allow the due force to such as is offered by those who are unconnected with us in the ties of blood. If the conduct that is recommended to us points to the happiness of life, what folly is it to neglect the sacrifice of idle inclination, the indulgence of which will yield but a slight and temporary gratification, though it may, perhaps, prove the source of severe and long regret.

There are those who censure the laws of these kingdoms as being of too sanguinary a complexion. Be it

admitted that there is something extremely dreadful in the idea of depriving a fellow creature of existence at a time when the weight of his sins is more than sufficient to sink him into everlasting perdition : but, as partial favour must always give way to considerations for the public good, it should be remembered that the lives of individuals are not sacrificed so much for the sake of punishing them for the offences of which they have been guilty, as with a view of making them public examples for the discontinuance of vice. Justice may for a time be eluded, and no inconvenience may have been sustained by the injured party, who, though entertaining no private animosity, but even tenderly compassionating the offender, will be induced, by his regard to the public, to enforce the law, which can never lose the power to operate. How dangerous, then, must be the situation of those who have been guilty of acts of delinquency ! The dread of a violent and disgraceful death, and all the horrors of conscious guilt, must continually rush upon their minds, and render them miserable beyond all the powers of expression.

Persons who, having infringed the laws of their country, are committed to prison, too frequently are known to employ their time in a very unprofitable manner. How can this conduct be accounted for but by supposing that they cherish the expectation of an acquittal ? No circumstances in life are so desperate as to exclude the hope of a favorable change of fortune. In support of this assertion it need only be said, that an instance cannot be produced where the most notorious offender has, even at the place of execution, declined the thoughts of a reprieve.

To consider the terrible situation of a condemned prisoner must unquestionably prove distressing in a peculiar degree to a humane mind. The unhappy object stands tottering on the verge of eternity, and the dreadful prospect wholly incapacitates him for making that preparation which is necessary to so important a change ; for it is a reasonable supposition, that under such alarming circumstances the mind must be so violently agitated as to be deprived of the power of exerting its usual functions ;

tions ; and there is too much reason to apprehend that, when repentance is thus long delayed, there will be but a feeble support for the hope of its efficacy. Therefore we should employ the short space between this life and eternity, in yielding a perfect obedience to the divine will: no opportunity should be neglected of making application to the Almighty power for obtaining forgiveness of those offences of which we have been guilty in daring to insult his sacred laws ; for death is clothed in terrors, which the man, possessed of the utmost fortitude of which human nature is capable, cannot behold with calmness, even when his mind is undisturbed by the upbraidings of a guilty conscience.

Disgusted at the prudent conduct of the old lady, in discountenancing her amour with the footman, the unfortunate young woman, whose memoirs are recorded in the preceding narrative, resolved to desert her benevolent patroness, from whom she had experienced all the tenderness of maternal affection : and this act of indiscretion led to those crimes which were followed by an untimely and ignominious death. Hence, then, it appears, that we cannot employ too much solicitude for avoiding a conduct that conscience cannot entirely approve.

CHARLES DREW,

(An execrable Parricide,)

—EXECUTED AT BURY ST. EDMUND'S ON THE 9th OF APRIL, 1746.

By the Lex Pompeia of the Romans, parricides were ordained to be put into a sack, with a dog, a cock, a viper, and an ape, and thrown into the sea, thus to perish by the most cruel of all tortures. The ancient laws of all civilized nations punished the crime of parricide by examples of the utmost severity. The Egyptians put the delinquents to death by the most cruel of all their modes of torture. They gradually mangled their body and limbs, and when almost every limb was dislocated, or

broken, they placed the criminal, writhing and screeching with pain, upon thorns, where he was burnt alive!

In China, impiety to parents is considered a crime, next in atrocity to treason and rebellion, for which criminals are sentenced to be cut in ten thousand pieces! and children cursing or striking their parents, are, in like manner, cut in one thousand pieces!—By the ancient Jewish law, it was also death for children to curse or strike their parents—in fine, every nation punished the parricide in the most exemplary manner.

Though the commission of the foul crime of murder has already been preserved in almost every shape of cruelty and malice; yet this is a deed still more unnatural—Great God! that the thoughts of doing such a deed should ever enter the mind of man. To kill a father! nature revolts at contemplating the crime, and we shudder at the young monster, who, step by step, advanced upon the life of his unprepared parent.

This shocking sinner was the son of the man he murdered, and who was possessed of good property, at Long Melford, in Suffolk, to possess which, like George Barnwell, to support an extravagant wanton, he committed the foul deed,* for which he was executed.

When

* Let Puritans rail at dramatic representations as they please, the tragedy of George Barnwell has saved more youths from destruction, than their ravings. A remarkable instance of this was told by Mr. Ross, the late celebrated tragedian.

A gentleman one day called on Ross, when stricken with years, much dejected in his looks, and told him that his father, a wealthy citizen in London, lay at the point of death, and begged that he might see him, or he could not die in peace of mind. Strange as this request appeared from a stranger, and in such extremity, the actor hesitated, but being much pressed by his visitor, he agreed to accompany him. Arrived at the house of the sick man, Mr. Ross was announced, and soon admitted into his chamber; but observing the family to retire, and being left alone with the patient, his suspicion was again aroused. The dying penitent, now “three-score years and ten,” casting his languid eyes upon Ross, said, “Can it be you, who raised my fortune—who sav’d my life? Then were you young like myself; aye, and amiable amid the direst misfortunes; I determined to amend my life, and avoid your fate.” Here nature, in a struggle with death, became overpowered, and as the sick man’s head fell upon his pillow, he faintly ejaculated, “O Barnwell! Barnwell!”

We may conceive the astonishment of the player, whom age had long incapacitated from representing the unfortunate London Apprentice. The feeble

When the son arrived at years of maturity, he became acquainted with one Elizabeth Boyer, who submitted to his solicitations, but was a woman of so much art, that most people thought he would marry her; and when she urged him to it, he said, "Betsey, let us stay a little longer, it will be worse for us both if I do it now, for my father will certainly disinherit me:" to which she replied, "I wish somebody would shoot the old dog."

This discourse was heard to pass between them in the month of January, 1740, and Mr. Drew was found murdered in his house on the first of February following. On inquiry into the affair, it was suspected that Mr. Drew was shot with a gun which had been lent to his son by Mrs. Boyer.

Charles having been to the Chelmsford assizes, fell into company with some smugglers, among whom was one Humphreys, a hardened villain, whom he invited to meet him at Mrs. Boyer's lodgings.

He accordingly met him; when Drew promised to settle two hundred pounds a year on him, if he would murder his father; and likewise gave him a considerable sum of money. Humphreys hesitated some time; but at length consenting to the horrid proposal, they went together towards the house, having a gun loaded with slugs, about eleven at night, on the 31st of January. It was agreed that young Drew should stand at a distance, while Humphreys knocked at the door, and asked for the old man; and then shoot him; but Humphreys's courage

feeble man, renewed his efforts to gratify a dying desire, again opened his eyes, and continued, "Mr. Ross, some forty years ago, like George Barnwell, I wronged my master, to supply the unbounded extravagance of a Millwood. I took her to see your performance, which so shocked me, that I silently vowed to break the connexion then by my side, and return to the path of virtue. I kept my resolution, and replaced the money I had stolen, before my villainy was detected. I bore up against the upbraidings of my deluder, and found a Maria in my master's daughter. We married. I soon succeeded to her father's business, and the young man who brought you here, was the first pledge of our love. I have more children, or I would have shewn my gratitude to you by a larger sum than I have bequeathed you; but take a thousand pounds affixed to your name." At the dying man's signal, old Ross left his room, overwhelmed by his feelings. We recommend all young people to view the fate of George Barnwell, founded on fact.

failing him when he came near the spot, he threw down the gun, saying he would have no concern in the murder. On this young Drew commanded him to keep silence on pain of death; and, taking up the gun, went to the door, and when his father opened it, shot him dead on the spot.

Having committed this horrid parricide, he said to Humphreys, "The job is done."

An inquest being held on the body of the deceased, and Humphreys, having heard that he was suspected, returned into the country, and was apprehended: but did not impeach Drew till some time afterwards, when the interception of some letters discovered the nature of the connection that had subsisted between them.

Humphreys deposed on the trial, that meeting the prisoner about a fortnight after the murder was committed, he asked him if he was not concerned at the death of his father, to which he replied in the negative, saying, "If he had lived, he would have ruined the family."

Young Drew going to London, made application for the king's pardon to any one except him who had actually murdered his father; in consequence of which an advertisement to that purpose was inserted in the London Gazette, signed by the secretary of state; and another advertisement followed it, in which Drew himself, offered a reward of a hundred pounds, on conviction of the murderer.

Humphreys being apprehended on suspicion, gave such an indifferent account of the transaction, that he was ordered to be kept in custody: and while he was in prison Drew sent him twenty pounds, with the promise of a hundred more. After he was committed, the suspicion of his guilt grew stronger, and was corroborated by several informations.

Drew now resided in London, where he changed his name to that of Roberts, and corresponded with Humphreys, who had assumed the name of John Smith. Some of the letters falling into the hands of Timothy Drew, Esq. a namesake only, he went to London in search of the murderer; and, after repeated inquiries, was told that he lodged in Sheer-lane, whither he went, and inquired for him

him by the name of Roberts. The people of the house said they had no lodgers: but the gentleman who had a magistrate's warrant for apprehending the offender, insisted on searching the house; but the search was made in vain.

On this he went to several bagnios, and at length to Eastmead's in Leicester-fields, where, he enquired for Mr. Roberts. Drew had given orders that he should be denied; but Mr. Timothy Drew observing the landlord whispering one of the waiters, suspected the truth of this declaration, and, calling for a pint of wine, asked the waiter to drink with him. After some conversation, he raised his voice, and in a positive manner declared that he knew Mr. Roberts was in the house, but that his real name was Charles Drew, and that he had murdered his father; then he threatened to have all the people in the house apprehended for concealing a murderer. This authoritative manner induced the waiter to confess that the gentleman was in the house. Hereupon he was conducted to the house of Justice de Veil; and, after an examination of above six hours, was committed to Newgate under a strong guard.

During his residence in the prison, he gave Jonathan Keate, the turnkey, a bond of half his fortune, on the condition of permitting him to escape, and accompanying him to France: and for his farther security, he executed a bond for the payment of a thousand pounds. The turnkey seemed to comply, and the time was fixed on for their departure; but the man having informed Mr. Akerman, the keeper, of the progress of the affair, Drew was removed into the old condemned hole, where a guard was placed over him night and day.

On the approach of the assizes, he was sent to the gaol of St. Edmund's-bury; and Humphreys being admitted an evidence, Drew was convicted after a trial of several hours.

He was hanged in the 25th year of his age, amidst the greatest crowd of spectators that were almost ever assembled on such a melancholy occasion in that part of the country.

ELIZABETH

*ELIZABETH AND MARY BRANCH,**(Mother and Daughter, Murderers,)*

EXECUTED AT IVELCHESTER, ON THE 3d OF MAY, 1740.

ANOTHER dire picture of the depravity of human nature, according to the order of time in which we give our dreadful Calendar, now succeeds. Among the crimes which our pages record, committed by females, we have been obliged to promulgate various instances of cruelty. The adage that "Women are very good or very bad," will be verified by contrasting these women, with the virtuous and tender-hearted females, who grace our domestic circles.

These cruel women were born at Philips-Norton, in Somersetshire. The mother was distinguished from her childhood by the cruelty of her disposition, which increased with her years, and frequently discovered itself on various occasions, and particularly in fomenting divisions among her father's servants, to render whom unhappy appeared to be one of the greatest pleasures of her life.

Her parents observing with regret this ferocity of temper told her that she would never get a husband unless she changed her conduct. This seemed for a while to have some influence on her, which gave great satisfaction to her parents; but it will appear from the following narrative that this influence was not lasting.

Being addressed by a neighbouring farmer, named Branch, a marriage took place; but the husband soon found what an unfortunate choice he had made; for his wife no sooner came into possession of her matrimonial power, than she began to exercise her tyranny on her servants, whom she treated with undeserved, and unaccountable cruelty, frequently denying them the common necessities of life, and sometimes turning them out of doors at night, in the midst of winter; but their wages in these cases were sent them by Mr. Branch, who was as remarkable for his humanity and justice, as his wife for the opposite qualities. Mary Branch, the daughter, was an exact resemblance

semblance of her mother in every part of her diabolical temper.

Mr. Branch dying, and leaving an estate of about three hundred pounds a year, he was no sooner buried than all the servants quitted the family, determined not to live with so tyrannical a mistress; and her character became so notorious that she could obtain no servants but poor creatures who were put out by the parish, or casual vagrants, who strolled the country.

It is needless to mention the particulars of the cruelties of this inhuman mother and daughter to their other servants; at whom they used to throw plates, knives, and forks, on any offence, real, or supposed: we shall therefore proceed to an account of their trial and execution for the murder of Jane Buttersworth, a poor girl, who had been placed with them by the parish-officers.

At the assizes held at Taunton, in Somersetshire, in March 1740, Elizabeth Branch, and Mary her daughter, were indicted for the wilful murder of Jane Buttersworth; when the principal evidence against them was in substance as follows:

Ann Somers, the dairy-maid, deposed, that the deceased having been sent for some yeast, and staying longer than was necessary, excused herself to her old mistress on her return, by telling a lie; on which the daughter struck her violently on the head with her fist, and pinched her ears. Then both of them threw her on the ground, and the daughter kneeled on her neck, while the mother whipped her with twigs till the blood ran on the ground, and the daughter taking off one of the girl's shoes, beat her with it in a cruel manner. The deceased cried for mercy, and, after some struggles, ran into the parlour, where they followed her, and beat her with broomsticks till she fell down senseless; after which the daughter threw a pail of water on her, and used her with other circumstances of cruelty too gross to mention.

Somers now went out to milk her cows, and on her return, at the expiration of half an hour, found her mistress sitting by the fire, and the girl lying dead on the floor; but she observed that a clean cap had been

put on her head since she went out ; and that the blood had run through it.

Saying she believed the girl was dead, the old mistress gave her abusive language : and the deceased being put to bed, Somers was ordered to lie with her ; which she was obliged to comply with in the fear of being treated in a manner equally cruel. Somers was not suffered to go out on the following day ; and at night the body was privately buried.

This transaction added to the character of the mistress having raised a suspicion in the neighbourhood, a warrant was issued by the coroner to take up the body, and an inquest being made into the cause of the girl's death, Mr. Salmon, a surgeon, declared that she had received several wounds, almost any one of which would have proved mortal.

The defence made by the prisoners on their trial was, that the prosecution was malicious ; for that the deceased had been subject to fits, in one of which she fell down, and received the bruises which occasioned her death : but bringing no proof in support of this allegation, the jury found them Guilty, and they were sentenced to die.

After conviction they entertained great hopes of a pardon ; and presented a petition to the judge ; but all the favour they could obtain was a respite for five weeks, in consideration that Mrs. Branch might have some temporal affairs to settle.

The mother appeared for some time little concerned under her misfortunes ; but the daughter lamented her unhappy fate, and begged the prayers of every one whom she saw.

A sermon was preached to them on the night before their execution ; which seemed to have a great effect on the mother, who now began seriously to reflect on her approaching exit ; and both of them made due preparation for death.

As the country people were violently enraged against them, they were conducted to the place of execution between three and four in the morning, attended only by the gaoler and about half a dozen people, lest they should have been torn in pieces.

When

When they came to the spot, it was found that the gibbet had been cut down : on which a carpenter was sent for, who immediately put up another ; and they were executed before six o'clock, to the disappointment of thousands of people who had come from all parts of the country to witness the death of two such wretches.

Just before they were turned off, Mrs. Branch made the following speech :

“ Good people,

“ You who are masters and mistresses of families, to you I speak in a more particular manner. Let me advise you, never harbour cruel, base, and mean thoughts of your servants, as that they are your slaves and drudges, and that any sort of usage, be it ever so bad, is good enough for them. These, and such like, were the thoughts that made me use my servants as slaves, vagabonds, and thieves ; it was these that made me spurn at, and despise them, and led me on from one degree of cruelty to another.

“ Keep your passions within due bounds ; let them not get the mastery over you, lest they bring you to this ignoble end. I am fully punished for all my severities ; and it is true, I did strike my maid, but not with a design to kill her ; and so far I think the sentence about to be executed upon me is unjust ; but the Lord forgive my prosecutors, and all those who have maliciously and falsely sworn against me.

“ Another caution I would give to you who are parents, namely, to suppress in your children the first appearance of cruelty and barbarity. Nothing grieves me so much, under this shock, as that I have by my example, and by my commands, made my daughter guilty with me, of the same follies, cruelties, and barbarities, and thereby have involved her in the same punishment with myself.

“ I declare I had no design of killing the deceased, as the Lord is my judge, and before whom I must shortly appear. I beg of you to pray for me, unto God, that my sins may be forgiven me, and that I may be received to mercy.”

After this the daughter spoke these few words :

“ Good people, pity my unhappy case, who, while young, was trained up in the paths of cruelty and barbarity ; and let all present take warning by my unhappy end, so as to avoid the like crimes. You see, I am cut off in the prime of life, in the midst of my days. Good people, pray for me.”

WILLIAM DUELL,

EXECUTED FOR MURDER ; AND CAME TO LIFE AGAIN WHILE PREPARING
FOR DISSECTION IN SURGEONS' HALL.

THIS man met a better fate than a criminal in a similar situation in Germany. The body of a notorious malefactor was stretched out upon the table, before the body of German surgeons, for dissection. The operator, in placing it in a proper position, felt life in it ; whereupon he thus addressed his brethren of the faculty, assembled to witness the operation :

“ I am pretty certain, gentlemen, from the warmth of the subject, and the flexibility of the limbs, that by a proper degree of attention and care, the vital heat would return, and life, in consequence, take place. But, when it is considered what a rascal we should again have among us, that he was hanged for so cruel a murder, and, that should we restore him to life, he would kill somebody else.—I say, gentlemen, all these things considered, it is my opinion, that we had better proceed in the dissection.” Whether this harangue, or the fear of being disappointed in so sumptuous a surgical banquet as a dissection, operated on their consciences, we cannot tell ; but certain it is, they nodded accordance ; and the operator, on the signal, plunged his knife into the breast of the culprit, thereby at once precluding all dread of future assassinations—all hopes of future repentance.

DUELL was convicted of occasioning the death of Sarah Griffin, at Acton, by robbing and ill-treating her. Having suffered Nov. 24, 1740, at Tyburn, with Thomas Clock, William Meers, Margery Stanton, and Eleanor Munoman,

Munoman, (who had been convicted of several burglaries and felonies,) his body was brought to Surgeons'-hall, to be anatomized : but after it was stripped and laid on the board, and one of the servants was washing him, in order to be cut, he perceived life in him, and found his breath to come quicker and quicker, on which a surgeon took some ounces of blood from him ; in two hours he was able to sit up in his chair, and in the evening was again committed to Newgate, and his sentence which might be again inflicted, was changed to transportation.



WILLIAM CREAK,

(MAIL ROBBER,)

EXECUTED MUCH LAMENTED, ON BAGSHOT-HEATH, AND HIS BODY HUNG IN CHAINS, WHERE HE COMMITTED THE ROBBERY.

THIS is another particular case, which we do not find any reporters who have gone before us to have noted.

We have already observed, that this species of public robbery, was formerly, though never pardoned after conviction, very common. It is now a matter of surprise, to reflect that such vast property, as always has been remitted by post-letters, should have been so insecurely guarded in their conveyance. A lad with the mail behind him, often carried thousands of pounds through lonely roads, in the dead hour of night. Hence, where there could be no resistance, every lurking cowardly thief, was able to take the mail at his pleasure ; but happily, the disposal of the plunder seldom failed of leading to a discovery of the perpetrator.

When the unfortunate man, who is the subject of the present report, was tempted to swerve from the paths of honesty, in robbing the mail, he was a linen-draper of good repute, at Henley-upon-Thames. He married the sister of one Kitson, a maltster of the same town, by whom, it appears, he was seduced to commit the robbery ; and who then, having received a part of the plunder, basely impeached, and brought him to an ignominious death.

death. We say basely, though the public received benefit from the information of Kitson, yet, cannot we divest ourselves of detestation of such individual treachery.

In consequence of this information, a warrant was issued for the apprehension of Creak, who had repaired to London with the remainder of the bank-notes, in order to pass them away. After considerable search, he was apprehended in the borough of Southwark, in the very act of putting off some of the stolen notes, for payment of linens, and when he found that he was apprehended he stuffed the remainder into his mouth, and actually swallowed them before they could be recovered.

He was indicted at the Assizes held at Kingston, for the county of Surry, in the month of August, 1740, and convicted of robbing the Western and Portsmouth mails.

This man, though his offence was of so heinous a nature, may claim some compassion from the feeling reader. He had a large family, bore an excellent character among his neighbours, and his credit was still good with his merchants in London.

Unsuspicious of others, he had given credit to a considerable amount, and was deceived in promises of payment. It also appeared that this was the only piece of iniquity, in which he had been concerned.

GILBERT LANGLEY,

A MAN OF SUPERIOR TALENTS AND EDUCATION, SENTENCED TO DEATH;
WHICH WAS REMITTED FOR TRANSPORTATION.

(A curious and interesting narrative.)

Virtue shou'd vice, in every rank,
Both scorn and ridicule,
As principles and manners will
The bravest nation rule.
Mend straight your life, and fear the laws,
Omnipotence revere,
It is not gold that happy makes
Poor grov'ling wretches here.

THOUGH each case which we lay before the reader, from the nature of our publication, necessarily leads to an untimely

timely end, or a severe punishment; yet, in the drawing of some, independent of our criminal record, we frequently give useful and interesting informations.

The history of Gilbert Langley presents the mode of educating young men in France. Before the long wars which succeeded the revolution, great advantages accrued to parents wishing to procure their children a good education, and a knowledge of the world. Constant intercourse took place between individuals of each nation. Send me your boys, says the French parent, I will send you my girls, and we will make no charge to each other; and vice versa, quoth the English father, I will educate your girls, while you do the like to my boys. Thus the youth of either nation, became intimate with both, and when once an Englishman's prejudice can be removed, he will find no people on earth more polished or agreeable than the French.

The writer of these reflections resided some time among those pleasant people; and with truth he avers, that once acquainted with them, and relaxing a little from JOHN BULLISM, an Englishman cannot fail being content among the inhabitants of France. This opinion, however, was formed before the natives changed the race of the Bourbons, for a far greater tyrant. Yet, even Bonaparte, odious as he was to the rest of Europe, did not materially affect the national hospitality of his subjects. And here, dwelling as the editor now does, on the pleasant days he once passed in Paris; and the farther stimulated to give some relief to the reader of his melancholy pages, he would offer a fragment, written by him in that gay city, many years since, on a beautiful and virtuous female Parisian, and never before committed to the press. Amid the effusions of youth, uncorrected from the time it was written, it portrays the mode of passing Sunday in a Catholic country.

“The Sabbath in Paris—I speak of the gay days of Louis XVI.—was passed at mass in the forenoon, and in attendance to a sermon in the afternoon.

“This was ever done with marks of devotion; and then all ranks sallied out in quest of pleasure.—The noblesse rolled

rolled in their carriages along the Boulevards, and the bourgeois walked to the banks of the Seine. As the evening approached ; some to the comedie Italian, the opera, or other theatres, of which there were above a score, would hasten ; while others formed parties for the dance, in the shady walks along the river.

“ It was on a fine Sunday afternoon, I strolled into the environs of Paris. My attention was particularly attracted by a groupe of dancers, in which were three beautiful little demoiselles, “ on the light fantastic toe,” tripping to music of the gay cotillon. On their cheeks was the tint of health, heightened, by exercise, to the rose’s blush ; the sweet smile of happiness played in their eyes, and sported on their smiles. I became, as it were, rivetted to the spot, and felt sorry when the figure ended. Then would I envy the youths their happiness in dancing with such angelic creatures. Here let not my fair country-women think my description profuse, or my own sex become fastidious, when I declare, that there is a fascination in some female Parisians, which could not attract, but through the smiles of innocence—and, of the unmarried and youthful, I firmly believe, that, with a demeanour which we might almost term levity, none are more virtuous. For the married and the matron I will not become an advocate.—It is said, that the sensual appetites of some begin at matrimony, and progress with their years ; while the paint on the cheek, which in the wane of beauty, each year, appears to get a new coat, seems to say, ‘ I still would attract, even though the power is gone.’ The pretty girls of France never paint, and with us in England, we only see the homely more disfigured by this vile custom ; for, what is by nature beautiful, suffers from every touch of art.

“ Still were my eyes bent upon one of the four—for the mind will indulge a preference—when a youth observing how long I remained a spectator of the dance, came to me, and with politeness fit for the drawing-room, invited me to make one of the next set, assuring me that either of the young ladies would think herself honoured by my hand. I had learned dancing a la Français, but
had

had I been untutored in the art, as John Bull himself, I verily believe I should have accepted the young Frenchman's offer. Fearful of losing her on whom my admiration hung, with joyful step I advanced, and took the hand of the fair, the modest Nanette. Let those who have ever adored female beauty and worth, conceive my delight—methought I danced in Elysium.

“In this pleasing retrospect, let me not suffer in the opinion of the over-wise for dancing on a Sunday. It is the will, and not the deed, which we condemn; nor do I think that any of our Right Reverend Fathers in God would entirely excommunicate me for the commission of this deed. I was in a strange land, where each custom was at variance with our own; and the adage tells us, that in Rome we must become Romans.

“With a smile of approbation, Nanette, her hand now parted from mine by the ending of the dance, took the arm I offered, and with delight and pride did I escort the little nymph to the dwelling of her parents. Our companions left us, as the road branched to their different homes, and together we proceeded, unknown to any one, to the upper part of Rue St. Honore. I was received by the father and mother of Nanette, and thanked for my attendance on their daughter; no distrust clouded their brows, no suspicion fell upon me—perdition to the man who would have given any cause—and I was regaled with wine. An English gentleman is welcome to each individual of France. I solicited the hand of Nanette, for the next Sunday, and received an invitation for an earlier day to visit her. I became intimate with this amiable family, and in love with my partner. She taught me French—there is nothing so bewitching as the instruction of an amiable female; and I, in return, instructed her in English. Some weeks had passed in this delightful employment, and young and inconsiderate, I longed to make Nanette my own. Fate, however, decreed otherwise, for I was summoned home to take my last leave of a near relation, who soon after my return, died within my arms. Our loves, however, met with no diminution by absence, for Nanette's letters became the greatest joy of my life. I had determined, it being now winter, to visit Paris in the spring, which

which, in all probability, would have witnessed our union;—but the revolution—unhappy event, by which such numbers suffered, was long a source of mental misery to me—for, in the general wreck, I lost Nanette!”

Gilbert Langley was born of Roman Catholic parents in London, where his father was an eminent goldsmith, and who sent his son to the seat of his grand-father in Derbyshire, when he was only three years of age.

Having continued in this situation four years, his mother's anxiety induced her to fetch him home; soon after which he was entered in the school of the Charter-house, where he soon became a tolerably good classical scholar.

The father now wished to send his son abroad for further education, and that he might not fail of being brought up a strict Catholic; but this was warmly opposed by the mother, through tenderness to her child; however, her death, soon left the father to act as he pleased.

The prior of the Benedictine convent at Douay being in London, Langley's father agreed for his board and education, and committed him to the care of his new master, with whom he proceeded to Dover, sailed for Calais, and travelled thence to St. Omers, and on the following day reached Douay, where young Langley was examined by the prior and fellows of the college, and admitted of the school.

At the end of three years he became a tolerable master of the French language, exclusive of his other literary acquirements; so that, at the Christmas following, he was chosen king of the class, which is a distinction bestowed on one of the best scholars, whose business it is to regulate the public entertainments of the school.

It is the custom at Douay for officers to attend at the gates of the town, to detect any persons bringing in contraband liquors, because the merchants of the place pay a large duty on them, which duty is annually farmed by the highest bidder.

During the Christmas holydays, Langley, and three of his school-fellows quitted the town, to purchase a small quantity of brandy at an under price; but being observed by a soldier, who saw the bottles filled, he informed the officers of the affair; the consequence of which was, that
the

the young gentlemen were stopped, and the liquor found, hid under their cassocks. They offered money for their release; but it was refused, and they were conducted to the house of the farmer-general.

At the instant of their arrival, two Franciscan Friars seeing them, said it was illegal to take students before the civil magistrates, because the superior of their own college was accountable for their conduct.

Hereupon they were taken home to the prior; and the farmer-general making his demand of the customary fine, the prior thought it extravagant, and refused to pay it: but at length, the matter was settled by arbitration.

In the Catholic colleges, the students live in a very meagre manner during the season of Lent, having little to subsist on but bread and sour wine; a circumstance that frequently tempts them to supply their wants by acts of irregularity.*

At this season Langley, and five of his companions, oppressed by the calls of hunger, determined to make an attack on the kitchen: but at the instant they had forced open the door, they were overheard by the servants, the consequence of which was, that many furious blows were exchanged by the contending parties.

On the following day the delinquents were summoned to attend the prior, who was so incensed at this outrage against the good order of the society, that he declared they should be expelled as soon as a consistory of the monks could be held.

But when the consistory assembled, they resolved to pardon all the offenders on acknowledging their faults, and promising not to renew them, except one, named Brown, who had twice knocked down the shoemaker of the college, because he had called out to alarm the prior.

The young gentlemen, chagrined at losing their associate, determined to be revenged on some one, at least, of the servants who had given evidence against them: and after revolving many schemes, they determined that the man who lighted the fires should be the object of their

* If English students, out of their own money could procure animal food, they might dress it; the servants of the college pretending not to see the impiety.

vengeance, because he had struck several of them during the rencounter.

This being resolved on, they disguised themselves, and went to a wood-house adjacent to the college, and being previously provided with rods, they waited till the man came with his wheel-barrow to fetch wood, when one of them going behind him, threw a cloak over his head, which being immediately tied round his neck, the rest stripped him, and flogged him in the most severe manner, while he in vain called for assistance, being unheard; as our heroes had taken previous care to shut the door of the wood-house.

The flagellation was just ended when the bell rung for the students to attend their evening exercise; on which, they left the unhappy victim of their revenge, and repaired to the public hall.

In the mean time, the poor sufferer ran into the cloisters, exclaiming, "Le Diable! Le Diable!" as if he had really thought the devil had tormented him: and hence he ran to the kitchen, where he recounted the adventure to his fellow-servants, who dressed his wounds, carried him to bed, and gave him something to nourish him.

A suspicion arising that the students had been the authors of this calamity to the poor fellow, the servants communicated the circumstances of it to the prior, who promised his endeavours to find out, and punish the delinquents; and, with this view, went into the hall, with a look at once penetrating and indignant: but the young gentlemen having bound themselves to secrecy by an oath, no discovery could be made.

Young Langley having distinguished himself by his attention to literature for the space of two years, the monks began to consider him as one who would make a valuable acquisition to their society, for which reason they treated him with singular respect; and, at length, prevailed upon him to agree to enter into the fraternity, if his father's consent could be obtained.

As Langley was in no want of money, he frequently went into the town, to habituate himself into the manners of the people, and to observe their customs. Thursday being a holyday, he and one of his school-fellows named Meynel,

Meynel, asked the prior permission to walk on the ramparts, which being denied, they went out without leave, and repairing to a tavern, drank wine till they were intoxicated.

In this condition, they went to the ramparts, where having been for some time the laughing stock of the company, they went home to bed. Being missed at evening prayers, some of the other students apologized for their absence, by saying they were ill; and the excuse was very readily admitted: but in a few days afterwards, a gentleman called on the prior, and told him what a ridiculous figure his students had made on the ramparts.

Incensed at this violation of their duty, the prior sent for them to his chamber, and gave orders that they should be flogged with great severity. This indignity had such an effect on the mind of Langley, that he grew reserved and morose, and would have declined all his studies, but that one of the monks, called Father Howard, restored him to his good humour by his indulgent treatment, and persuaded him to pay his usual attention to literature.

Father Howard's considerate conduct had such an effect on Langley, that he spent the greater part of his time with that gentleman, who instructed him in the principles of logic, and was about to initiate him in those of philosophy, when his father wrote a letter requiring him to return to his native country.

The society being unwilling to lose one whom they thought would become a valuable member, the prior wrote to England, requesting that the youth might be permitted to complete his education; but the father insisted on his return; he consequently left the college, and proceeding by the way of St. Omer's, reached Calais in two days. As the wind was contrary, it was some days longer before the company embarked for England, when, instead of putting into Dover, the vessel came round to the Thames, and the passengers were landed at Gravesend.

Langley having spent all his money at Calais, now affected an air of unconcern, saying that he had no English money in his possession, from his having been

so long abroad : on which, one of the company lent him money, and on the following day he arrived at his father's house, in London.

When he had reposed himself some days after his journey, the father desired him to make choice of some profession ; on which, he mentioned his inclination to study physic or law ; but the old gentleman, who had no good opinion of either of these professions, persuaded him to follow his own trade of a goldsmith.

For the present, however, he was placed at an academy, in Chancery-lane, that he might be instructed in those branches of knowledge requisite for a tradesman ; but becoming acquainted with some young gentlemen of the law, he found that his father's allowance of pocket-money was insufficient for his use ; and being unwilling that his new acquaintance should think that he was deficient in cash, he purloined small sums from a drawer in his father's shop, and when he did not find any money there, stole some pieces of broken gold, which he disposed of to the Jews.

Mr. Langley, the elder, having sent his son with some plate to the house of a gentleman in Grosvenor-square, the youth saw a very beautiful woman go into a shop opposite a public-house ; on which, he went into the latter, and inquiring after her, found she had gone to her own lodgings. Having ascertained this, he delivered his plate, and formed a resolution of visiting the lady on the Sunday following.

When the Sunday came, the old gentleman went out, and, as the son imagined, to smoke his pipe at an adjacent public-house ; and, in the mean time, the son stole seven guineas from three different bags, that his father might not discover the robbery, and immediately repaired to the lodgings of the lady whom he had seen.

From thence they went to a tavern, where they continued till the following day, having no idea of a detection : but it happened that Mr. Langley, senior, instead of going to the public-house as usual, watched his son to the tavern above mentioned.

On the following day the father interrogated the youth
respecting

respecting his preceding conduct ; and particularly asked where he had been the day before. The young fellow said he had been at church, where he met with some acquaintance, who prevailed on him to go to the tavern.

The father, knowing the falsehood of his tale, corrected his son in a severe manner, and forbade him to dine at his table till his conduct should be reformed. Thus obliged to associate with the servants, young Langley became soon too intimate with the kitchen-maid, and robbed his father to buy such things as were acceptable to her.

Among other things, he purchased her a pair of shoes laced with gold, which he was presenting to her in the parlour, at the very moment that his father knocked at the door. The girl instantly quitted the room ; but the old gentleman interrogating the son respecting the shoes, the latter averred that a lady, who said she had bought them in the neighbourhood, desired leave to deposit them at their house till the following day.

After this, the father permitted the son to dine with him as usual ; but it was not long before he detected him in a too intimate connexion with the maid servant in the kitchen ; on which the girl was dismissed from her service, and Mr. Langley threatened to disinherit his son, unless he would reform his conduct.

A middle-aged woman of grave appearance, was now hired as a servant ; but the evil complained of was far from being cured, as an intimacy between her and the young gentleman was soon discovered by the father.

It was not long after the servant-girl above mentioned had been discharged, before she swore herself pregnant by the son : on which, he was taken into custody by a warrant ; the father paid fifteen pounds to compromise the affair, and forgave him all the errors of his former conduct.

The death of the old gentleman put his son in possession of a considerable fortune, exclusive of a good settled trade ; and for the first year, he applied himself so closely to business, that he made a neat profit of seven hundred pounds : but he did not long continue this course of industry ; for having formerly made connexions with women

men of ill-fame, particularly in the purlieus of Drury-lane, he now renewed his visits to those wretched victims to, and punishers of, the vices of men.

A man of genteel appearance, named Gray, having ordered plate of Langley to the amount of a hundred pounds, invited him to a tavern to drink. In the course of the conversation, the stranger said he had dealt with his late father, and would introduce him to a lady who had thirty thousand pounds to her fortune. This was only a scheme to defraud Langley, who delivered the plate, and took a draught for the money on a vintner in Bartholomew-close; but when he went to demand payment the vintner was removed.

On the following day, the vintner's wife went to Langley, and informed him that Gray had defrauded her husband of four hundred and fifty pounds; and Langley, being of a humane disposition, interested himself so far in behalf of the unfortunate man, that a letter of licence for three years was granted him by his creditors.

Langley now took out an action against Gray, but was not able to find him; when one day, he was accosted by a man in Fleet-street, who asked him to step into a public-house, and he would tell him where he should meet with the defrauder. Langley complying with the proposal, the stranger said he would produce Gray within an hour, if the other would give him a guinea; which being done, the stranger went out, but returned no more.

Exasperated by this circumstance, which seems to have been a contrivance of one of Gray's accomplices, Mr. Langley employed an attorney, who soon found the delinquent, against whom an action was taken out, in consequence of which he was confined several years in the Marshalsea.

Langley now became a sportsman on the turf at Newmarket, under the instruction of a vintner in Holborn, whose niece entered into his service; but who soon fell a victim to his unbounded passion for the sex.

Langley becoming acquainted with some young fellows in the Temple, three of them, and four women of the town, went with him to Greenwich, where they gave the
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the ladies the slip, and took a boat to London; but the women pursuing them, overtook them in the river, and attempting to board their boat, afforded great diversion to the spectators: our adventurers' watermen, however, rowing hard, they reached the Temple, and concealed themselves in one of the chambers, a few minutes before the ladies landed.

Soon after this Langley made another excursion to Greenwich to visit a lady and gentleman, who having a remarkably handsome servant-maid, our adventurer found means to seduce her; the consequence of which was that she became pregnant, and made repeated applications to him for support: whereupon he gave her a considerable sum of money, and heard no more of her from that period.

Thus living in a continual round of dissipation, his friends recommended matrimony as the most likely step to reclaim him; in consequence of which he married a young lady named Brown with a handsome fortune.

He had not been long married before he determined to borrow all the cash and jewels he could, and decamp with the property. As he had the reputation of being in ample circumstances, he found no difficulty in getting credit for many articles of value, with which, he and his wife embarked for Holland; and in the mean time his creditors took out a commission of bankruptcy against him.

When Langley came to Rotterdam, he applied to the States General for protection, in apprehension of being pursued by his creditors; but the States not being then sitting, the creditors made application to Lord Chesterfield, then ambassador at the Hague, which frustrated his intention.

In the interim his creditors found out his lodgings in a village near Rotterdam; but he eluded their search, leaving his wife, with four hundred pounds, in the care of a friend; but did not tell her the place of his retreat, to prevent any possibility of a discovery.

After skulking from place to place, he went back to Rotterdam, and surrendered to his creditors; but found that his wife was gone with an English captain to Antwerp. On his arrival in England he was examined be-

fore the commissioners, and treated with the customary lenity.

After his affairs were adjusted he sailed to Barbadoes, where he soon contracted so many debts that he was glad to take his passage to Port Royal in Jamaica : and soon after his arrival there he went to visit a planter at some distance, who would have engaged him as his clerk.

Langley told the planter that he owed twenty dollars at Port Royal, for which he had left his chest as a security. The gentleman instantly giving him the money to redeem it, he went to Port Royal, assumed the name of Englefield, embarked on board a man of war as midshipman, and came to England, where the ship was paid off at the expiration of six months.

Taking lodgings at Plymouth, he paid his addresses to a young lady, whom he might have married, with the consent of her father : but being then in an ill-state of health, he pretended to have received a summons from his friends in London, to repair immediately to that city on an important affair ; but that, as soon as it was adjusted, he would return, and conclude the marriage.

On his arrival in town, he sent for a man who had formerly lived with his father, from whom he learnt that his creditors had not made any dividend under the bankruptcy, and were engaged in a law-suit respecting a part of the property. This faithful old servant of his father told him that his wife had retired to the North of England : and, giving him money, recommended it to him to lodge privately in Southwark.

This advice he followed ; and kept himself retired for some time ; but passing through Cheapside, he was arrested and conducted to the Poultry Compter, where he continued many months, during which he was supported by the benevolence of the old servant above mentioned. While in the Compter, he made some very bad connexions ; and being concerned with some of the prisoners in an attempt to escape, he was removed to Newgate, as a place of greater security.

While in this prison, he fell ill of a disorder, which threatened his life ; whereupon his friends discharged the debt

debt for which he had been arrested, and removed him to lodgings, where he soon recovered his health.

Soon afterwards he got recommended to a captain in the Levant trade, with whom he was to have sailed ; but an unhappy attachment to a woman of ill-fame prevented his being ready to make the voyage.

Langley's friends were chagrined at this fresh instance of his imprudence ; and soon afterwards he was arrested, and carried to a spunging-house, where he attempted to dispatch himself by a halter ; but the rope breaking, he escaped with life. The bailiff and his wife happening to be now absent, and only two maid-servants in the house, Langley made them both drunk, and effecting his escape, crossed the water into the Borough, where he worked some time with a colour-grinder.

Disgusted with a life attended with so much labour, he contracted with the captain of a Jamaica ship, who took him to that island, on the condition of selling him as a slave ; and, on his arrival, sold him to Colonel Hill, who employed him to educate his children : but Langley soon running from his employer, went on board a ship bound to England ; being impressed on his arrival in the Downs, he was put on board a man of war, and carried round to Plymouth.

Langley and another man deserting from the ship, strolled to London, and took up their residence in a two-penny lodging : but as Langley now found no friends to support him, he contracted with one of those persons called crimps, who used to agree with unhappy people to go as slaves to the colonies. His contract was to sail to Pennsylvania ; but while the ship lay in the Thames, he and a weaver from Spitalfields made their escape, and travelling to Canterbury, passed themselves as Protestant refugees.

Going hence to Dover, they embarked for Calais ; and after some weeks residence in that place, Langley sailed to Lisbon, where he remained only a short time before he contracted debts, which obliged him to seek another residence, and he went to Malaga in Spain.

His poverty was now extreme ; and while he sat melancholy one day by the sea-side, some priests asked him

from what country he came. He answered in Latin, "From England."

Hereupon they conducted him to a convent, relieved his distresses, and then began to instruct him in the principles of the Roman Catholic religion. Langley disguised his sentiments; and after being apparently made a convert, was recommended as a page to a Spanish lady of distinction.

In this situation he continued several months; but having an affair of gallantry with the niece to the old lady, he was compelled to make a precipitate retreat from a window, and shelter himself in the house of an Irish taylor, who procured a passage for him to Gibraltar, in the first ship that sailed.

On his arrival at Gibraltar, he would have entered into the army; but being refused, because he was not tall enough, his distress compelled him to work as a labourer in repairing the barracks; he soon quitted this business, and officiated as a waiter in the Tennis-Court belonging to the garrison; but it being intimated to the governor that he was a spy, he was lodged in a dungeon, where he remained more than a fortnight.

On obtaining his discharge, he embarked on board a Spanish vessel bound to Barbary with corn: and, on his return to Spain applied to the monks of a convent, who charitably relieved him, and the prior agreed to take him a voyage to Santa Cruz: having no great prospect of pecuniary advantage in this way of life, he went to Oratava, where some English merchants contributed to his support; but he soon sailed to Genoa, as he could get no settled employ at Oratava.

From Genoa the vessel sailed to Cadiz; and Langley being now appointed steward to the captain, in the course of his reading some letters, found one directed to Messrs. Ryan and Mannock; and having been a school-fellow with Mr. Mannock, he requested the captain's permission to go on shore, and was received by him in the most friendly manner; he offered to serve him in any way within his power: when Langley said, that what he wished was a discharge from his present situation.

Hereupon Mannock wrote to the captain desiring him
to

to pay the steward, and discharge him ; but this being refused, Langley took a lodging, to which he was recommended by his friend, who desired he would dine daily at his table, till he procured a passage for England. He likewise gave him money and clothes, so as to enable him to appear in the character of a gentleman.

Langley behaved with great regularity for some time ; but the season of a carnival advancing, he got into company with a woman of ill-fame, with whom he spent the evening ; and on his return, was robbed of his hat, wig, and a book, which he had borrowed of his friend.

On the following day, Mr. Mannock saw the book laying at a shop for sale ; which chagrined him so much, that he asked Langley for it, who thereupon acknowledged the whole affair ; and Mr. Mannock supposing the woman was privy to the robbery, he took out a warrant against her ; by which he recovered his book, which he greatly esteemed.

This matter being adjusted, Langley, by the help of his friend, procured a passage for England ; but just when he was going to embark, he met with a woman, who detained him till the ship had sailed ; on which he took a boat, and passed over to St. Lucar, where he went on board an English vessel, which brought him to his native country.

On his arrival in London, he found that his creditors, under the bankruptcy, had received ten shillings in the pound, which gave him reason to hope that he should have a sum of money returned to him, with which he proposed to engage in a small way of business ; and in that view applied to his wife's mother for her assistance, and also to inform him where he might find his wife ; but she positively refused to comply with either request.

Langley now gave himself up to despair, associated with the worst of company, and though he had some money left him at this juncture, he dissipated the whole in the most extravagant manner.

He now made an acquaintance with one Hill, a young fellow who was in similar circumstances ; and having agreed to go to Paris together, they walked as far as
Dover ;

Dover ; but, on their arrival, finding that an embargo had been laid on all vessels in the port, they determined to return to London.

Being now destitute of cash, they demanded a man's money on the highway ; but on his saying he had not any, they searched him, and took from him three farthings, which they threw away almost as soon as they had got it ; for this offence they were apprehended on the same day, and being tried at the next assizes for Kent, were capitally convicted ; but the sentence was changed to transportation for seven years.

Langley was transported in the month of December, 1740.

CAPTAIN HENRY SMYTHEE,

EXECUTED AT DORCHESTER, APRIL 12, 1741, FOR THE MURDER OF THE
FEMALE WHOM HE HAD SEDUCED.

No sooner had we resumed the pen, after putting the finishing stroke to the interesting account of Gilbert Langley ; and while yet the innocent Nanette was tripping o'er our fancy ; the case of a detested murderer of the female he had loved, obtrudes upon our notice. When the object of his lust, and the victim of his barbarity, fell into his snare, she was innocent, virtuous and beautiful, as Nanette. With the poet would we exclaim,

“ Accurs'd be that man who rifles innocence and beauty,
“ And then, like a detested weed, throws it away.”

Yet, after the commission of such crimes, men have breathed the air of heaven, while they deserved damnation ; until the terribly offended laws of man have inflicted punishment on the wretches. Every circumstance that could aggravate, will be found in this shocking case. The murderer was a husband to another woman, and a father of children born in wedlock.

Henry Smythee was brought up to a sea-faring life, and succeeded his father in the command of a large merchant ship, in a foreign trade.

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After he had made several voyages, a storm obliged him to put into the harbour of Pool in Dorsetshire, where he saw a young lady, the daughter of a merchant, to whom he paid his addresses, and was in a short time married. His wife's father dying soon after their marriage, Mr. Smythee declined going any longer to sea, engaged in the mercantile business, and employed his leisure hours in rural diversions.

One day, when out with his gun, he wandered so far from home that he lost his way, and being very hungry, he strolled to a cottage kept by a poor widower, named Ralph Mew, who had an only daughter, equally distinguished by the elegance of her form, and the simplicity of her manners.

Mr. Smythee requested the favour of some food; but the countryman suspecting that he meant to take some undue advantage of him, told him he might be supplied at a public-house a mile distant. Smythee, to convince the countryman that he was no impostor, shewed him a diamond-ring, a purse of gold, and his watch; on which he was asked to sit down; and Jane Mew, the daughter, fried some bacon and eggs for him, while her father drew some of his best ale.

After the repast, he recounted some of his adventures in foreign parts; but in the mean time regarded the daughter with an eye of desire, and being struck with her superior charms, resolved to get possession of her, if possible.

On his quitting the house, the old man told him that if he came that way another time, he should be welcome to any thing in his cottage, except his daughter. On the following day he went to the cottage, and gave the old man a tortoise-shell snuff-box, as a compliment for his hospitable behaviour the day before.

The old cottager going out, Mr. Smythee paid his warmest addresses to the daughter, to whom he presented some jewels: but she no sooner judged of his design, than she said, "Is it thus, sir, you make returns for my father's hospitality, and my civility? And can you be such a wretch, as to think that my poverty will make me guilty of a dishonourable action?"

Saying

Saying this, she rejected his presents with contempt; while he, struck with the force of what she had urged, remained some time speechless, and then attributed his conduct to the violence of his passion, and offered to make her all the satisfaction in his power, by marriage.

The girl acquainting her father with what had passed, Mr. Smythee was permitted to pay his addresses in an honourable way: but such were his artifice and villainy, that his solemn vows of marriage soon prevailed over the too credulous girl; and her ruin was the consequence.

When the father found that his daughter was pregnant, he died with grief, leaving the unhappy girl a prey to the pungent sorrows of her own mind. Distressed as she was, she wrote to her seducer, but as he took no notice of her letter, she went to Pool, and being directed to his house, the door was opened by Mrs. Smythee, who demanded her business, and said she was the wife of the person for whom she inquired. The poor girl was so shocked to find that Mr. Smythee had a wife, that it was with difficulty she was kept from fainting.

When somewhat recovered, she said that she was with child by Mr. Smythee, who had seduced her under promise of marriage. Hereupon the wife censured her conduct with unreasonable severity, and threatened that she should be lodged in prison if she did not immediately quit the town.

Leaving the house, the unhappy creature fainted in the street, and was soon surrounded by a number of females, who insulted her with every term of reproach.

When she recovered her senses, she went to a public-house, where she intended to have lodged; but the landlady threatening to send for the beadle, she was obliged to quit the house.

In the interim Mr. Smythee came to his own house, and after being compelled to listen to the reproaches of his wife on the infidelity of his conduct, he went out, and desired a person to call on the young woman, and appoint her to meet him at a place without the town.

The unfortunate girl met him accordingly. What passed

passed between them it is impossible to know; but on the following day she was found with her throat cut, and a bloody knife laying by her. Smythee absconding, it was generally supposed that he had been the murderer; and, on his return to Pool, about a month afterwards, he was taken into custody, and lodged in the county gaol.

In his defence at his trial, he urged that the reason of his absence from his family was a quarrel with his wife, in consequence of the unhappy discovery that had been made by the deceased: but as he could bring no proof of his being absent from the spot when the murder was committed, no doubt remained of his guilt, he was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die.

After conviction, he was visited by several clergymen, who exerted themselves to impress him with a due sense of his awful situation. As his death advanced, he became still more resigned, acknowledged the many errors of his life, and confessed himself worthy to undergo the rigour of the law.

He walked to the place of execution, amidst an immense surrounding multitude: and, having ascended the cart, addressed the populace, advising them to refrain from yielding to the first impulses of temptation, as they would wish to be preserved from the violation of the Divine laws. After the usual devotions, he drew his cap over his face, and saying, "To thee, O Lord, I resign my soul," he was launched into eternity.

Captain SAMUEL GOODERE, a Fratricide; MATTHEW MAHONY, and CHARLES WHITE, his Accomplices in the Murder of Sir John Dinely Goodere, Baronet;

EXECUTED AT THE HOT WELLS, BRISTOL, APRIL 20, 1741.

OUR observations on the case lately given of the horrid parricide Drew, may, in part, apply to Goodere—the one shot his father,—the other strangled his brother; and both the foul deeds committed, under the vain hopes of

enjoying the property of those whose blood they had shed.

Sir John Dinely Goodere succeeded his father, Sir Edward, in the possession of an estate of three thousand pounds a year, situated near Evesham, in Worcestershire.

His brother, Samuel, the subject of this narrative, was bred to the sea, and advanced to the rank of captain of a man of war.

Sir John married the daughter of a merchant, and received 20,000*l.* as a marriage portion; but mutual unhappiness was the consequence of this connexion: for the husband was brutal in his manners, and the wife, perhaps, not strictly observant of the sacred vow she had taken; for, she was too frequently visited by Sir Robert Jasen; and, after frequent recriminations between the married pair, Sir John brought an action in the Court of Common Pleas, for criminal conversation, and 500*l.* damages were awarded by the jury.

Sir John's next step was to indict his lady for a conspiracy, and a conviction following, she was fined, and imprisoned one year in the King's Bench. He likewise petitioned for a divorce; but the matter being heard in the House of Lords, his petition was thrown out.

Sir John having no children, Captain Samuel Goodere formed very sanguine expectations of possessing the estate; but finding that the brother had docked the entail in favour of his sister's children, the captain sought the most diabolical means of revenge for the supposed injury.

While the captain's vessel lay in the port of Bristol, Sir John went to that city on business; and being engaged to dine with an attorney, named Smith, the captain prevailed on the latter to permit him to make one of their company, under pretence of being reconciled to his brother: Mr. Smith consented, and used his good offices to accommodate the difference; and a sincere reconciliation appeared to have taken place.

This visit was made on the 10th of January, 1741, and the captain having previously concerted his measures, brought some sailors on shore with him, and left them
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at a public-house, in waiting to seize the baronet in the evening.

Accordingly, when the company broke up, the captain attended his brother through the streets, and when they came opposite the public-house, the seamen ran out, seized Sir John, and conveyed him to a boat that had been appointed to wait for his reception.

Some persons who were witnesses to this outrage, would have rescued the unfortunate gentleman; but the captain telling them that he was a deserter, and the darkness of the evening preventing them from judging by his appearance, this violation of the law was permitted to pass unobstructed.

As soon as the devoted victim was in the boat, he said to his brother, "I know you have an intention to murder me, and if you are ready to do it, let me beg that it be done here, without giving yourself the trouble to take me on board:" to which the captain said, "No, brother, I am going to prevent your rotting on land; but, however, I would have you make your peace with God this night."

Sir John being put on board, applied to the seamen for help: but the captain put a stop to any efforts they might have made to assist him, by saying he was a lunatic, and brought on board to prevent his committing an act of suicide.

White and Mahony now conveyed him to the purser's cabin, which the captain guarded with a drawn sword, while the other villains attempted to strangle him, with a handkerchief which they found in his pocket, the wretched victim crying out "murder!" and beseeching them not to kill him, and offering all he possessed as a compensation for his life.

As they could not strangle him with the handkerchief, the captain gave them a cord; with which Mahony dispatched him, while White held his hands, and trod on his stomach. The captain now retired to his cabin; and the murder being committed, the perpetrators of it went to him, and told him, "the job was done;" on which, he gave them money, and bade them seek their safety in flight.

The attorney with whom the brothers had dined, having heard of the commission of a murder, and knowing of the former animosity of the captain to his brother, immediately conjectured who it was that had fallen a sacrifice: on which, he went to the mayor of Bristol, and obtained his warrant to the water-bailiff, who, going on board, found that the lieutenant and cooper had prudently confined the captain to his cabin.

The offender being brought on shore, was committed to Newgate, and Mahony and White being taken in a few hours afterwards, were lodged in the same prison.

At the sessions, held at Bristol, on the 26th of March, 1741, these offenders were brought to trial; and being convicted on the fullest evidence, received sentence of death.

After conviction, Mahony behaved in the most hardened manner imaginable; and when the gaolers were putting irons on him, he said he should not regard dying on the following day, if he could be attended by a priest, to whom he might confess his sins. This man and White were both Irishmen, and Roman Catholics.

Captain Goodere's time, after conviction, was spent chiefly in writing letters to persons of rank, to make interest to save his life; and his wife and daughter presented a petition to the king: but all endeavours of this kind proving ineffectual, he employed a man to hire some colliers to rescue him on his way to the fatal tree; this circumstance transpiring, the sheriff took care to have a proper guard to carry the law into execution.

Captain Goodere's wife and daughter, dressed in deep mourning, took a solemn leave of him on the day before his death. He went in a mourning-coach to the place of execution, to which his accomplices were conveyed in a cart.

They were hanged near the Hot Wells, Bristol, on the 20th of April, 1741, within view of the place where the ship lay when the murder was committed.

Along with them, suffered a woman, named Jane Williams, for the murder of her bastard child, who had been brought up in such a wretched state of ignorance, that she

she knew not, until instructed by the clergyman, who attended her dying moments, that there is a God,

“ And that there is, all nature cries aloud.”

JAMES HALL,

EXECUTED IN THE STRAND, SEPTEMBER 15, 1741, FOR MURDERING HIS MASTER.

NEVER did the workings of a guilty mind evince more agony than seized this wretch, on committing the foul murder, which, in fact, his own perturbation discovered.

This malefactor was descended of honest parents, of Wells, in Somersetshire, who gave him such an education as might qualify him for any ordinary rank of life.

Being unwilling to remain in the country, he came to London, and lived some time with a corn-chandler; and after a continuation in this service, he married, and had several children: but not living happily with his wife, articles of separation were executed between them. After this, he married another woman, by whom he had one child, and who visited him after his being in custody for the murder.

At the sessions, held at the Old Bailey, in August, 1741, he was indicted for the murder of John Penny, gentleman, and pleading guilty, received sentence of death.

Mr. Penny had chambers in Clements-inn; and Hall had lived with him seven years before he committed the murder; nor had he formed any design of being guilty of the horrid deed till within about a month of its perpetration; but having kept more company than his circumstances could afford, he had involved himself in difficulties, which made him resolve to murder and rob his master.

On the 7th of June, 1741, he intoxicated himself with liquor, and then determined to carry his design into execution. Mr. Penny coming home between eleven and twelve at night, Hall assisted in undressing him in the dining-room; and while he was walking towards the bed, the

the villain followed him with a stick, which he had concealed for the purpose, and struck him one blow with such force, that he never spoke afterwards; and continued his blows on the head till he was apparently dead.

Willing, however, to be certain of completing the horrid tragedy, and to avoid detection, he went into the dining-room, and stripping himself naked, he took a small fruit-knife belonging to his master, and returning to the chamber, cut his throat with it, holding his neck over the chamber-pot. Mr. Penny bled very freely; for, when the blood was mixed with a small quantity of water, it almost filled the pot five times; and three of the pots thus mixed, the murderer threw into the sink, and two in the coal-hole. He then took his master's waistcoat, which was lined with duffil, and bound it round his neck, to suck up the remainder of the blood.

This being done, he took the body on his shoulders, carried it to the necessary, and threw it in head foremost; and flying back immediately to the chambers, under the most dreadful apprehensions of mind, he took his master's coat, bloody shirt, the stick that he had knocked him down with, and some rags that he had used in wiping up the blood, and running a second time naked to the necessary-house, threw them in at a hole on the opposite side of it.

The body being thus disposed of, he stole about thirty-six guineas from his master's pocket, and writing-desk; and such was the confusion of his mind, that he likewise took some franks, sealing-wax, and other articles, for which he had no use; and then he employed the remainder of the night in washing and rubbing the rooms with cloths; but finding it no easy matter to get out the blood, he sent for the laundress in the morning, to wash them again, telling her that his master's nose had bled over night.

On the following day, the guilty wretch strolled from place to place, unable to find rest for a moment, any where; and all his thoughts being engaged in concealing the murder, which he hoped was effectually done, from the place where he had secreted the body.

On the Friday following, he went to Mr. Wooton,
his

his master's nephew, on a pretence of inquiring for Mr. Penny, who, he said, had quitted the chambers two days before, and gone somewhere by water ; so that he was afraid some accident had happened to him.

Mr. Wooton was so particular in his inquiries after his uncle, that Hall was exceedingly terrified at his questions, and knew not what answer to make to them. After this, the criminal went twice every day to Mr. Wooton, to inquire after his master, for ten days ; but lived all the while in a torment of mind, that is not to be described.

So wretched was he, that finding it impossible to sleep in the chambers, he got his wife to come and be with him : and they lay in Mr. Penny's bed : but still sleep was a stranger to him.

At length, Mr. Wooton had Hall taken into custody, on a violent suspicion that he had murdered his uncle. On his first examination before a magistrate, he steadily avowed his innocence ; but being committed to Newgate, he attempted an escape : this, however, was prevented : and a few days afterwards, he confessed his guilt before some relations of the deceased.

We have already mentioned that he pleaded guilty on his trial ; and have now to add that, after sentence was passed on him, he was exceedingly contrite and penitent, and confessed his guilt in letters to his friends.

On the day before his death, he received the sacrament, with all apparent signs of that penitence, which was necessary to prepare him for that dreadful scene that lay before him.

He was hanged at the end of Catherine-street, in the Strand, and his body afterwards hung in chains at Shepherd's Bush, three miles beyond Tyburn turnpike, on the road to Acton.

The following is a letter which this malefactor wrote to his wife, the night preceding his execution :

“ My Dear, Twelve o'clock, Sunday night.

“ I AM very sorry we could not have the liberty of a little time by ourselves, when you came to take your leave of me ; if we had, I should have thought of many
more

more things to have said to you than I did ; but then I fear it would have caused more grief at our parting. I am greatly concerned that I am obliged to leave you and my child, and much more in such a manner, as to give the world room to reflect upon you on my account ; though none but the ignorant will, but rather pity your misfortunes, as being fully satisfied of your innocence in all respects relating to the crime, for which I am in a few hours to suffer.

“ I now heartily wish, not only for my own sake, but the injured person’s, your’s, and my child’s, that I was as innocent as you are, but freely own I am not, nor possibly can be in this world ; yet I humbly hope, and fully trust, through God’s great mercy, and the merits of my blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, to be happy in the next.

“ After I parted with you, I received the holy sacrament comfortably, which Mr. Broughton was so good as to administer to me, who has also several times before taken a great deal of pains to instruct me, and so has some others of his acquaintance, by whose assistance, and my own endeavours, I hope God will pardon all my sins for Christ’s sake, and admit me into his heavenly kingdom.

“ My dear, some of my latest prayers will be to God, to direct and prosper you and my child in all good ways, so long as he pleases to let you live here on earth ; that afterwards he may receive you both to his mercies to all eternity. I hope I shall willingly submit to my fate, and die in peace with all men. This is now all the comfort I can give you in this world, who living was, and dying, hope to remain,

“ Your loving and most affectionate husband,

“ JAMES HALL.”

JOHN

*JOHN BODKIN, a still more execrable Parricide ;
DOMINICK BODKIN, and JOHN HOGAN,*

EXECUTED FOR MURDER IN IRELAND, OCTOBER 17, 1741.

WHEN we wrote our comments upon the crime of Drew, the parricide, we did not expect that so very unnatural and foul a murder would again present itself in our researches of the crimes of mankind. We sincerely hoped, for the credit of human nature, that we should not find its parallel ; but the following far exceeds it ! We can add nothing to our opinion, already expressed, of such monsters as can shed the blood of the authors of their being.

Among the sources of information, from which we glean our volumes, we have now before us, Faulkner's Dublin Journal, for the year in which this most horrible deed was done, from which we make our extracts. The criminal calendars already published in this, as well as in many other cases, appear to have been compiled without the advantages which we have been able to derive from records, and other genuine accounts of crimes and punishments, for their notes of the destruction of the families of the Bodkins, fall infinitely short in point of information.

Faulkner's Journal, for the year 1741, contains the following melancholy narrative :

“ Within three miles of Tuam, in Ireland, at a lone house, lived a gentleman, named Oliver Bodkin, whose family consisted of a wife, who was his second, a son by her, one Mr. Lynch, a visitor for one night (who came from a horse-race) three maid-servants, and four men-servants, who were all found murdered in their gore, on Thursday, the 20th past, their throats cut from ear to ear, and stabbed in several part of their bodies. Mr. Lynch was ripped up the breast and belly like a sheep in the slaughter-house. The gentlewoman, (the mother-in-law of John Bodkin, one of the murderers,) was also ripped open, and the child laid on his father's bosom, who was also murdered, with its head cut off. On proceeding to

each room, a fresh spectacle of horror offered itself. Three maids were discovered weltering in their blood; and four men-servants dead in the barn, some of whom had their brains knocked out. Even the dogs and cats of the house were killed.

“The next day it was found, that all this was perpetrated by John Bodkin, son to the gentleman by a former wife, and three ruffians. His father had granted him a maintenance, which he had profusely squandered, and applied to the old gentleman for more, but in vain. The son, enraged at the refusal, and expecting to be disinherited, threatened his father's life, who thereupon wrote to Lord Athunry, of the danger he apprehended. His lordship, upon hearing of the murder, had him immediately secured. He confessed the whole crime, and that his accomplices were Dominick Bodkin, his cousin; John Hogan, his father's shepherd; and one Burke, who were all apprehended.

“The shepherd confessed that he had murdered two, but thinking to preserve the boy to whom he had been foster-father,* besmeared him with blood, and laid him near his father. Dominick, perceiving him alive, killed him, and he acknowledged to murdering five more. John Bodkin owned, that he and Burke killed the remainder; and that he had formerly attempted, but in vain, to poison his mother-in-law; and that he was concerned with his first-cousins John Bodkin, now living, and Frank Bodkin, lately dead, in strangling Dominick Bodkin, their brother, heir of the late counsellor, John Bodkin, of Carobegg, to an estate of 900*l.* a year.”

The parricide John, had been liberally educated, and sent to study law in Dublin, with a suitable allowance from his father; but instead of pursuing his profession, he entered into every species of dissipation. Having squandered away his money, he returned to the country,

* It is customary with wealthy families in Ireland, to put their children to nurse with some poor tenants; who afterwards call themselves foster-father and foster-mother to the young 'squire or miss; while their children claim that of foster-brother and foster-sister; and an affection, thus cemented, remains between them through life.

and

and resided in the neighbourhood of his father, brooding upon his destruction.

When they were brought to trial, the parricide, Dominick Bodkin, and John Hogan, pleaded guilty; but they were all condemned, and executed the next day, the 8th of October, 1741. The head of the shepherd was fixed on Tuam market-house, and the bodies of the others gibbeted within sight of the house where the murders had been committed.

Upon the confession of John, the cousin of the same name was apprehended for the murder of his elder brother, Dominick Bodkin, and accused of sitting on his mouth and breast, until he was suffocated. He was taken in a moss, or turf-bog, near Tuam, covered over with straw, and disguised in an old hat and peasant's clothes, for which he had given his own laced coat and hat. Being examined before Lord Athunry, he said, that he fled for fear of being loaded with irons in a gaol, and denied having any hand in his brother Dominick's death, affirming, that he had died of a surfeit, as had been reported. He was present at the execution of his relations, but confessed nothing, and thus, for a while, (there being no positive proof against him,) he escaped justice.

HENRY COOK,

MURDERER AND HORSE-STEALER;

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DECEMBER 16, 1741, FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

SELDOM has villany had so long a race as we find in this man's history. He committed more robberies, singly, than Wild, Turpin, or Hawke, and was long the terror of travellers on different roads, but particularly in Essex; and this is consequently a long narrative of curious and daring exploits, with hair-breadth escapes before he could be taken.

Cook was the son of creditable parents in Houndsditch, and having received a decent education, was apprenticed to a leather-cutter, with whom he served his time, and then his father took the shop of a shoe-maker at Stratford in Essex, in which he placed his son.

Having some knowledge of the shoe-making business, he was soon well established, and married a young woman at Stratford, by whom he had three children, before he commenced highwayman.

However, it was not long after his marriage before the associating with bad company, and the neglect of his business, involved him so far in debt, that he was obliged to quit his house in apprehension of the bailiffs.

He was afterwards obliged wholly to decline business; and having taken up goods in the name of his father, he was ashamed to make application to him for relief in his distress.

Among the idle acquaintance that Cook had made at Stratford, was an apothecary, named Young, who was concerned with him in robbing gardens and fish-ponds, and in stealing poultry. The persons robbed, offered a reward for apprehending the offenders; and Cook having been known to sell fowls at Leadenhall-market, a warrant was granted to take him into custody; but having notice of it, he concealed himself two months at the house of a relation, at Grays, in Essex.

During this retreat, it was determined not to execute the warrant; but Cook learning that a bailiff at Stratford had vowed to arrest him if he could be found, he sent the officer a letter, advising him to consult his own safety, for he would blow his brains out if he should meet him.

This threat effectually intimidated the bailiff: and Cook having dissipated all his cash, went to Stratford, where he found a man so intimate with his wife, that he became enraged in the highest degree, and taking several articles of furniture with him, he went to London and sold them.

This being done, he went to the house of a relation in Shoreditch, where he was treated with civility while his money

money lasted ; but when that was nearly gone, there was no farther appearance of friendship : and being now driven to extremity, he went to Moorfields, where he purchased a pair of pistols, and having procured powder and ball, went towards Newington, in his way to which, he robbed a man of fifteen shillings, and returned to London.

Thus embarked in the high road to destruction, he determined to continue his dangerous trade ; and on the following day went to Finchley-common, where he stopped a gentleman, the bridle of whose horse he seized, and ordered him to dismount on pain of death. The rider complying, was robbed both of his money and horse ; but he offered the highwayman three guineas if he would send the horse to an inn, at St. Alban's, which he promised to do ; but, afterwards, finding that he had a valuable acquisition in the beast, he failed to restore him.

This robbery being committed, he crossed the country to Enfield-chace, and going to a public-house where he was known, said that he wished to hide himself lest he should be arrested.

Having continued here two days, he proceeded to Tottenham, where he robbed a gentleman of about six pounds, and leaving his horse at an inn, in Bishopsgate-street, he went to his kinsman's in Shoreditch, where he was interrogated respecting his possessing so much money, but he would give no satisfactory answer.

On the following day, he went on the St. Alban's road, and having robbed the passengers of a stage-coach of eight pounds, he went to Enfield-chase, to the house he had frequented before ; but while he was there, he read an advertisement, in which, his horse was so exactly described, that he determined to abscond : on which, he went to Hadley-common, near Barnet, where he robbed a gentleman, and taking his horse, gave the gentleman his own.

Soon after this, he went to an inn, at Mims, where he saw a gentleman whom he had formerly robbed, and was so terrified by the sight of the injured party, that he

he ran to the stable, took his horse, and galloped off with the utmost expedition.

On the road between Mims and Barnet, he was met by eight men on horseback, one of whom challenged the horse he rode, saying, that a highwayman had stolen it from a gentleman of his acquaintance.

Our adventurer replied, that he had bought the horse at the Bell, in Edmonton, of which he could give convincing proofs : whereupon, the whole company determined to attend him to that place ; but when he came near Edmonton, he galloped up a lane, where he was followed by all the other parties ; and finding himself in danger of being apprehended, he faced his pursuers, and presenting a pistol, swore he would fire, unless they retreated. Some countrymen coming up at this juncture, he must have been made prisoner, but night advancing, he quitted his horse, and took shelter in a wood.

When he thought he might safely leave his lurking-place, he hastened to London, and going to the house of his relation, in Shoreditch, he was challenged with having committed robberies on the highway ; but nothing could be learnt from the answers he gave.

Having dissipated his present money he went again upon Finchley-common. His late narrow escape, however, made such an impression on his mind, that he suffered several persons to pass unattacked, but at length robbed an old man of his horse and five pounds, though not till after it was dark.

Soon afterwards, he met a gentleman, whom he obliged to change horses with him : but, in a few minutes, the gentleman was stopped by the owner of the stolen horse, who said a highwayman had just robbed him of it. Enraged at this, the gentleman swore the place was infested with thieves : however, he delivered the horse, and walked to London.

Cook riding to his old place of resort, near the Chace, remained there three days ; but seeing the horse he had last stolen advertised, he rode off in fear of discovery ; and had not proceeded far, before he was seized by the owner of the horse, assisted by three other persons, who conducted him to Newgate.

At

At the next Old Bailey sessions he was indicted for stealing this horse; but acquitted, because the owner would not swear to his person.

Soon after his discharge, he returned to his former practices, but his affairs with his creditors having been by this time adjusted by his friends, he lived at Stratford with his wife, and committed his depredations chiefly on Epping-forest.

Having acquired a booty of thirty pounds, he shewed it to a journeyman he kept, named Taylor, and asked him how he might employ it to the best advantage, in buying leather; but Taylor, guessing how it had been obtained, offered to go partners with his master, in committing robberies on the highway; and the base contract was instantly made.

They now stopped a great number of coaches on the borders of the forest; but acted with such an uncommon degree of caution, that they were for a long time unsuspected. The neighbours being at length terrified by such repeated outrages on the public peace, a Captain Mawley took a place in the basket of the Colchester coach, to make discoveries; and Cook and Taylor coming up to demand the money of the passengers, Taylor was shot through the head; on which, Cook ran to the captain, and robbed him of his money, on threats of instant death.

The carriage driving on, Cook began to search his deceased companion for his money; but some of the neighbours coming up, he retired behind a hedge to listen to their conversation; and having found some of them knew the deceased, and intimated that he had been accompanied by Cook, he crossed the fields to London.

Having spent three days in riot and dissipation, he went to his relation in Shoreditch, whom he requested to go to Stratford, to inquire the situation of affairs there. When his relation returned, he told him there was several warrants issued out against him, and advised him to go to sea.

This he promised to do, but instead thereof, he bought a horse, and road to Brentwood, in Essex, where he heard
little

little conversation but of Cook, the famous highwayman of Stratford; and on the next day, he followed a coach from the inn where he had put up, and took about thirty pounds from the passengers.

Cook now connected himself with a gang of desperate highwaymen in London, in conjunction with whom he stopped a coach near Bow, in which were some young gentlemen from a boarding-school. A Mr. Cruikshanks riding up at this instant, one of the gang demanded his money; but as he hesitated to deliver it, another of them knocked him down, and killed him on the spot; after which, the robbers went to a public-house, near Hackney-marsh, and divided the spoils of the evening.

Cook continued but a short time with this gang: but going to a house at Newington-green, sent for a woman with whom he had cohabited; who threatened to have him apprehended, unless he would give her some money; and though he had but little in his possession, he gave her a guinea, and promised her a farther sum, lest she should carry her threats into execution.

Oppressed in mind, by contemplations on his crimes, and particularly by reflecting on the murder of Mr. Cruikshanks, he went to St. Alban's, where he assumed a new name, and worked as a journeyman shoe-maker for about three weeks; when a highwayman being pursued through the town, the terrors of his conscience on the occasion, were such, that he hastily left the shop, and ran across the country, towards Woburn, in Bedfordshire.

In his way to Woburn, he robbed a farmer of fifty pounds and his horse, and bade him sue the county. The farmer soon raised the hue and cry; but Cook escaped for the present, and riding as far as Birmingham, took lodgings at a public-house, and disposed of his horse.

Cook had now taken on him the name of Stevens; and the landlord of the house where he lodged telling him that there was a shop to let, he took it, and entered into business as a shoe-maker. He now hired one Mrs. Barrett, as his house-keeper: but she soon became his more intimate companion: and accompanying him to horse-races,

aces, and other places of public diversion, his little money was soon dissipated.

Thus situated, he told his housekeeper that he had an aunt in Hertfordshire, who allowed him a hundred per annum, which he received in quarterly payments; and that he would go to her for his money. Under this pretence he left her, and went to Northampton, and from thence to Dunstable, near which place he robbed a farmer of his horse, and sixteen pounds, and then rode to Daventry.

At this last place he met with a Manchester dealer, going home from London; and having spent the evening together, they travelled in company the next day, and dined at Coventry. Cook having an intention of robbing his fellow-traveller, intimated that it would be proper to conceal their money, as they had a dangerous road to travel; and putting his own money into his boot, the other put a purse of gold into his side-pocket.

Prosecuting their journey till they came to a cross-road, Cook demanded his companion's money, on pain of immediate death: and having robbed him of thirty-five guineas, he travelled immediately to Birmingham, and Mrs. Barrett imagined he had been supplied by his aunt, agreeably to the story he had told her.

He now carried on trade as usual; but as often as he was distressed for cash, he used to have recourse to the road, and recruited his pockets by robbing the stages.

At length a London trader coming to Birmingham, asked Cook how long he had lived there: which terrified him so that he quitted the place, and travelled towards London, and near Highgate robbed a gentleman named Zachary, of his horse and money.

On his stolen horse he rode to Epping Forest on the following day, and having robbed a gentleman, returned to London by the way of Stratford, at which place he spoke to a number of his old acquaintance; but was not imprudent enough to quit his horse.

Going to a house he had frequented at Newington-Green, he sent for his relation who lived near Shoreditch, who advised him to make his escape, or he would certainly be taken into custody. On this he went to Mims:

and his relation visiting him, Cook begged he would sell five watches for him; but the other declined it, recommending him to dispose of them himself in London.

On the following evening, when it was almost dark, he rode towards town, and observing a chaise behind him, permitted it to pass, and followed it to the descent of the hill towards Holloway. There were two gentlemen in the chaise, whose money Cook demanded: but instead of complying, they drove on the faster; on which he fired, and wounded one of them in the arm; but the report of the pistol bringing some people towards the spot, he galloped off, and went to Mims, his old place of retreat.

Coming to London next day to sell his watches, he was seen in Cheapside by a woman who knew him, and followed him to Norton Falgate, where, observing him to go into a public house, she went and procured a constable, who took him into custody, and found on him five watches, and about nine pounds in money.

On his examination before a magistrate, Mr. Zachary, whom he had robbed near Highgate, swearing to the identity of his person, he was committed to Newgate; but not before he had offered to become evidence against some accomplices he pretended to have had, which offer was rejected.

He now formed a scheme to murder the keepers, and to make his escape; but being detected, he was confined to the cells, and being brought to his trial at the Old Bailey, was capitally convicted.

After sentence of death he for some time affected a gaiety of behaviour: but when the warrant for his execution arrived, he was so struck with the idea of his approaching fate, that it occasioned convulsive fits, and he never afterwards recovered his health.

This offender was hanged along with John Hudson, for horse stealing; Patrick Bourne, for a burglary; and Mary Harris, for stripping and robbing a child about ten years of age.

THOMAS

THOMAS LYELL and LAWRENCE SYDNEY,

(Gamblers and Cheats,)

PILLORIED FOR FRAUD, JUNE 2, 1742.

WE find no notice taken of this offence in the different Criminal Calendars already published (and which indeed are very imperfect), yet we deem such plausible rogues as these fit subjects to swell a catalogue of offenders against the law.

In April, 1740, these pests to society were committed to Newgate, charged on the oaths of several gentlemen of distinction, with cheating and defrauding them with false and loaded dice, at the masquerade, on Thursday morning, about three o'clock, to the amount of four hundred pounds.

It also appeared on their examination, which lasted from six o'clock in the morning till three in the afternoon, that they had cheated a number of other gentlemen of upwards of four thousand pounds more. Nine pair of dice were found upon the sharpers, and on being cut asunder, they were all, except one, loaded; that is, to introduce a piece of lead in a direction into the die, which, when thrown, will generally turn a number suited to the owner's game.*

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* The following evidence given in the Court of King's Bench, the 29th of November, 1796, will discover some of the tricks of this description of swindlers.

A cause came on before Lord Chief Justice Kenyon, on the statute against gaming, and one John Shepherd being called as a witness for the injured party, he swore that he saw hazard played at the gaming-house of the defendant, in Leicester-street. Every person who was three times successful paid the defendant a silver medal, which he purchased from him on entering the house, at eight for a guinea, and he received seven or eight of these in the course of an hour for the box hands, as it was called. The people who frequented this house always played for a considerable sum. Sometimes 20*l.* or 30*l.* depending on a single throw of the dice. The witness remembered being once at the defendant's gaming-house, about three or four o'clock in the morning, when a gentleman came in very much in liquor. He seemed to have a great deal of money about him. The defendant said, he had not intended to play, but now he would set to with this fellow. He then scraped a little wax with his finger off one of the candles, and put the dice together, so that they came seven every way. After doing this, he dropped them into the box and threw them out, and afterwards drew

They were brought to the bar of the Old Bailey for these infamous practices, and after a long trial, in which scenes of iniquity were discovered to have been committed by sharpers of this description, as astonished the court and jury : Lyell and Sydney were found Guilty, and sentenced to be imprisoned one year, and during that time to be pilloried. Notwithstanding the law has provided against these illicit practices, yet, in the present day, our great and titled gamblers play with impunity.*

On the 12th of June, 1742, above two years after, the cheat, Thomas Lyell and Lawrence Sydney, the principals of the gang, were brought out of Newgate, and carried to the Haymarket, where a pillory had been erected to receive them, facing the Opera-house, the scene of their depredations,

drew all the money away, saying he had won it. Seven was the main, and he could not throw any thing but seven. The young gentleman said, he had not given him time to *bar*. A dispute arose between the defendant and him ; it was referred to two or three persons round the table, and they gave it in favour of the defendant. The gentleman said, he had lost upwards of 70*l*. The defendant said, ' We have cleared him.' The witness has seen a man pawn his watch and ring in several instances ; and once he saw a man pawn his coat, and go away without it.

After the gaming-table was broken by the Bow-street officers, the defendant said, it was too good a thing to be given up, and instantly got another table, large enough for twenty or thirty people. The frequenters of this house used to play till day-light ; and on one or two occasions they played all the next day. This is what the defendant called ' sticking to it rarely.' The guests were furnished with wine and suppers gratis, from the funds of the partnership, in abundance. Sunday was a grand day. The witness has seen more than forty people there at a time. The table not being sufficient for the whole, half-a-crown used on such occasions to be given for a seat, and those behind looked over the backs of the others and betted.

The person above-mentioned (whose name was Smith) who pawned his coat, corroborated the above evidence ; and added, that he had seen a person, after he had lost all his money, throw off his coat, and go away, losing it also.

* No person unacquainted with the manners of high-life in London, can form an idea, when contemplating the wretched state of the country, of the wanton extravagance of the great. It is really a melancholy reflection, that among people equally free, living under the same laws, and equally loyal, some should roll in riches, so as to find the squandering it away a fatigue, while others toil from morn till night, and yet cannot procure food for their half-naked children. In order to dispatch this superfluity, many score private gaming-tables are spread each night with cards and dice, where it is the fashion for the rich to plunder each other. The titled dames,
of

depredations, amid the scoffs and taunts of an enraged populace.*

ROBERT RAMSEY,

(*Highwayman and a singular Cheat,*)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, ON THE 13th OF JUNE, 1742.

IN the trick which this man played upon a clergyman, we know not which of them the most to despise; whether the avarice and gluttony of the latter, or the knavery of the cheat, preponderates, we leave to the reader; the one would have defrauded the church, and the other robbed the clergyman! In his assumed character as a quack-doctor we have a proof of the credulity of mankind; and we are somewhat relieved from the odium which arises at the recital of his deceptions, by the escape of an unsuspecting female's honour, though purchased by the deprivation of a part of her fortune. This man's fate deserves little commiseration; and more especially as a liberal education might have taught him to lead a life of virtue.

This offender was born of respectable parents near Grosvenor-square, and apprenticed to an apothecary, after being liberally educated at Westminster-school. His master's circumstances becoming embarrassed, Ramsey left him, and went into the service of another gentleman of the same profession.

of late years, have entered into a competition, who can lavish the most amongst the largest assemblage of what they call the Fashionable World; and, under a variety of new-fangled names, they advertise these scenes of lewdness and lavishment. It would almost seem as though one part of a country became enriched by the poverty of the other; else why should one man find it difficult to maintain a virtuous wife while a duke or a lord can keep his harlot on an extensive establishment, unknown to his duchess or lady, and there wallow in debauchery?

* At the Guildhall London sessions, in June, 1750, one James Pattle, alias Jones, a notorious cheat and gambler, was found guilty of defrauding a countryman out of seventy-six guineas, by cutting cards, two packs of which were found upon him, so contrived, that by taking them by the sides, they cut high, and endways, they cut low. He also was pilloried and whipped.

He

He now became a professed gamester. The billiards and hazard-tables engrossed his time ; and his skill being great, he often stripped his companions ; yet the money he thus obtained, he dissipated in the most extravagant manner.

Having made an acquaintance with one Carr, they singled out a clergyman who frequented the coffee-house they used, as a proper object to impose upon ; and having ingratiated themselves into his good opinion, Ramsey took the opportunity of Carr's absence to tell the clergyman that he had a secret of the utmost consequence to impart ; and the clergyman having promised secrecy, the other said that Carr was in love with a young widow, who was very rich, and inclined to marry him ; but that the match was opposed by her relations.

He added that the lady herself was averse to being married at the Fleet, even if she could escape the vigilance of her relations so far as to reach that place. The clergyman listening to the story, Ramsey offered him twenty guineas to marry the young couple ; and it was agreed that the parties should meet at a tavern near the Royal Exchange on the following day.

Ramsey having told Carr what had passed, went to the clergyman the next morning ; and observing, that if the lady took her own footman he might be known, said he would disguise himself in livery, and attend the priest.

This being done, a hackney-coach was called for the clergyman, and Ramsey getting up behind it, they drove to the tavern, where rich wines were called for, of which Ramsey urged the clergyman to drink so freely that he fell asleep, when Ramsey picked his pocket of his keys.

The gentleman awaking, inquired for the couple that were to be married ; on which Ramsey, calling for more wine, said he would go in search of them ; but immediately calling a coach, he went to the clergyman's lodgings, and producing the keys, said he had been sent by the gentleman for some papers in his cabinet.

The landlady of the house, seeing the keys, permitted him to search for what he wanted ; on which he stole a diamond-ring of the value of forty pounds, and about a hundred

hundred pounds in money, and carried off some papers.

This being done, he returned to the clergyman, said that the young couple would attend in a short time, and desired him to order a genteel dinner: but this last injunction was unnecessary; for the parson had taken previous care of it; and while he was at dinner, Ramsey said he would go and order a diamond, and a plain gold ring, and would return immediately.

He had not been long absent, when a jeweller brought the rings, which he said were for a baronet and his lady who were coming to be married. The clergyman asked him to drink the healths of the young couple; and just at this juncture Ramsay came in and told the jeweller that he was instantly wanted at home; but that he must return without loss of time, as his master's arrival was immediately expected.

The jeweller was no sooner gone than Ramsay, taking up the diamond ring, said that he had brought a wrong one, and he would go back and rectify the mistake. In the interim the jeweller finding that he had not been wanted at home, began to suspect that some undue artifice had been used; on which he hurried to the tavern, and thought himself happy to find that the parson had not decamped.

Having privately directed the waiter to procure a constable, he charged the clergyman with defrauding him of the rings. The other was naturally astonished at such a charge; but the jeweller insisted on taking him before a magistrate; where he related a tale that, some days before, those rings had been ordered by a man whom he supposed to be an accomplice of the person now charged: but the clergyman being a man of fair character, sent for some reputable people to bail him; while the jeweller returned home cursing his ill fortune for the trick that had been put on him.

London being an unsafe place for Ramsey longer to reside in, he went to Chester, where he assumed the character of an Irish gentleman, who had been to study physic in Holland, and was now going back to his native country. During his residence at Chester he insinuated
that

that he was in possession of a specific cure for the gout ; and the landlord of the inn he put up at being ill of that disorder, took the medicine ; and his fit leaving him in a few days, he ascribed the cure to the supposed nostrum.

Ramsey having gone by the name of Johnson in this city, now dressed himself as a physician, and having printed and dispersed hand-bills, giving an account of many patients whose disorders had yielded to his skill ; and promising to cure the poor without expense, no person doubted either the character or abilities of Dr. Johnson.

A young lady who was troubled with an asthma became one of his patients ; and Ramsey presuming that she possessed a good fortune, insinuated himself so far into her good graces that she would have married him ; but that her uncle, in whose hands her money was, happened to come to Chester at that juncture.

The young lady acquainted the uncle with the proposed marriage ; on which the old gentleman observed that it would be imprudent to marry a man with whose circumstances and character she was wholly unacquainted ; on which she reluctantly consented that the necessary inquiries should be made ; as she was entirely devoted to her lover.

Hereupon Ramsey put into her uncle's hands copies of several letters which he said he had written to some people of distinction, who would answer for his character. By this finesse he hoped to get time to prevail on the lady to marry him privately, which, indeed, she would readily have done, but through fear of offending her uncle.

During this situation of affairs, while Ramsey was walking without the city, he happened to see the clergyman above-mentioned, whom he had so much injured in London ; on which he hastily retired to a public-house in Chester, and sent a person to Park-Gate, to inquire when any ship would sail for Ireland : and the answer brought was, that a vessel would sail that very night.

On receiving this intelligence, Ramsey went and drank tea with the young lady ; and taking the opportunity of her absence from the room, he opened a drawer, whence

whence he took a diamond ring, and fifty guineas, out of eighty which were in a bag.

Some little time afterwards he asked the lady to spend the evening at his lodgings, and play a game at cards; and having obtained her consent, they spent some time with apparent satisfaction: but Ramsey going down stairs, returned in great haste, and said that her uncle was below. As she appeared frightened by this circumstance, he locked her in the room, first giving her a book to read, and said that if her uncle should desire to come up, he would pretend to have lost the key of the door.

The intent of this plan was to effect his escape while she was confined; and having got on board the ship the same evening, he sent her a letter, of which the following is a copy:

“ Dear Madam,

“ I doubt not but you will be extremely surprised at the sudden disappearance of your lover: but when you begin to consider what a dreadful precipice you have escaped, you will bless your stars. By the time this comes to hand, I shall be pretty near London, and as for the trifle I borrowed of you, I hope you will excuse it, as you know I might have taken the whole, if I would; but you see there is still some conscience among us doctors.

“ The ring I intend to keep for your sake unless the hazard-table disappoints me, and if ever fortune puts it in my power, I will make you a suitable return; but till then, take this advice, never let a strange doctor possess your affections any more.

“ I had almost forgot to ask pardon for making you my prisoner; but I doubt not but old Starch-face, your uncle, would detain me a little longer, if he could find me. Adieu.

“ R. JOHNSON.”

This letter he committed to the care of a person who was to go to Chester in a few days; and in the interim Ramsey reached Dublin, where, having dissipated his

money in extravagance, he embarked in a ship bound to Bristol, whence he travelled to London.

On his arrival in the metropolis, he found his younger brother, who had likewise supported himself by acts of dishonesty; and they agreed to act in concert.

His brother was a snuff-box maker, and they now went out together genteelly dressed, early in the morning, in order to commit their depredations; when they found the door of a genteel house open, and while the servant-woman was washing the steps, or gone on a short errand, leaving the door ajar, one of them slipt in and seized the plate on the side-board, or whatever he could lay his hands on, while the other remained to prevent surprise; and then he would receive and run off with the prize, while the actual robber, with apparent unconcern, walked off another way.

They committed a variety of robberies in conjunction, confining their depredations chiefly to the stealing of plate; but we proceed to the narrative of that for which Ramsey suffered the utmost rigour of the law.

Having taken a previous survey of Mr. Glyn's house at the corner of Hatton-garden, the brothers broke into it in the night, and carried off a quantity of plate; but hand-bills being immediately circulated, they were taken into custody while offering the plate for sale to a Jew in Duke's-place. * The lord mayor, on examining the prisoners,

* A class of cheats, of the society of Jews, are to be found in every part of the metropolis, under the pretence of purchasing old clothes and metals of different sorts. Their chief business, really, is to prowl about the houses and stables of men of rank and fortune, for the purpose of holding out temptations to the servants to pilfer and steal small articles, not likely to be missed, which these Jews purchase at about one-third of the real value. It is supposed that upwards of fifteen hundred are employed in diurnal journies of this kind; by which, through the medium of bad money and other fraudulent dealings, many of them acquire property, and then set up shops, and become receivers of stolen goods.

It is estimated that there are from fifteen to twenty thousand Jews in the city of London, besides, perhaps, about five or six thousand more in the great provincial and sea-port towns; where there are at least twenty synagogues, besides six in the metropolis. Most of the lower classes of those distinguished by the name of German or Dutch Jews live chiefly by their wits, and establish a system of mischievous intercourse all over the country,

soners, admitted the younger brother an evidence against the elder.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey it was an affecting scene to behold the one brother giving evidence against the other, who was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death.

After conviction Ramsey seemed to entertain a proper idea of the enormity of the offences of which he had been guilty; and in several letters to persons whom he had robbed, he confessed his crimes, and entreated their prayers. He did not flatter himself with the least hope of pardon; sensible that his numerous offences must necessarily preclude him from such favour.

A letter, which he wrote to a friend at Bristol, contains the following pathetic expressions: "O blame me
"not: I am now by the just judgment of God and man
"under sentence of death. Whatever injuries I have
"committed, with tears in my poor eyes, I ask forgive-
"ness. Oh! my friend, could you but guess or think
"what agonies I feel, I am sure you would pity me:
"may my Father, which is in heaven, pity me like-
"wise!"

At the place of execution Ramsey made an affecting address to the surrounding multitude; entreating the younger part of the audience to avoid gaming, as a vice which would infallibly lead to destruction.

After the customary devotions on such melancholy occasions, he was turned off, and the body having hung the usual time, was conveyed in a hearse to Giltspur-street, whence it was taken and decently interred by his friends,

try, the better to carry on their fraudulent designs in the circulation of base money, the sale of stolen goods, and in the purchase of metals of various kinds, as well as other articles, pilfered from the dock-yards, and stolen in the provincial towns, which they bring to the metropolis to elude detection—and vice versa.

Frequently educated in idleness from their infancy, they acquire every vicious principle which can fit them for the most complicated arts of fraud and deception. From the orange-boy and the retailer of seals, razors, glass, and other wares, in the public streets, to the shop-keeper, dealer in wearing apparel, or in silver and gold, the same principles too generally prevail.

at the expiration of two days from the time of his execution.

On the same gallows with Ramsey were also executed James Boquois and Joseph Allen, for highway robberies; Mary Page, for stealing goods; William Quaite, a drummer in the guards, for a robbery committed in St. James's Park; and John Glew Guilliford, for returning before the expiration of his sentence, from transportation, of whom we can find no particulars.

JONATHAN BRADFORD,

EXECUTED AT OXFORD, UPON PRESUMPTIVE EVIDENCE, OF MURDERING CHRISTOPHER HAYES, ESQ. WHOSE DEATH HE PREMEDITATED, BUT OF WHICH HE WAS INNOCENT.

(A singularly curious Case.)

THE fate of this man may serve as an additional lesson to jurymen, to be extremely guarded in receiving presumptive evidence. However depraved his mind, yet it appeared, several years after his execution, that he died innocent of the crime laid to his charge. Those who are called upon to determine in questions of life and death, should suppose innocence, where there is not an absolute demonstration of guilt.

Jonathan Bradford kept an inn at the city of Oxford. A gentleman, (Mr. Hayes) attended by a man-servant, one evening put up at Bradford's house, and in the night the former was found murdered in his bed, and the landlord apprehended on suspicion of having committed the barbarous and inhospitable crime.

The evidence given against him was to the following effect: Two gentlemen who had supped with Mr. Hayes, and who retired at the same time to their respective chambers, being alarmed in the night with a noise in his room, and soon hearing groans, as of a wounded man, they got up in order to discover the cause, and found their landlord, with a dark-lantern, and a knife in his hand, in a state of astonishment and horror, over his dying guest, who almost instantly expired.

On

On this evidence the jury convicted Bradford, and he was executed. If we are to determine upon the life or death of a man, here was presumptive evidence, sufficient for that purpose. On a trial at *Nisi Prius*, and between personal right and wrong, the jury are often directed by the judge to take into consideration presumptive evidence, where positive proof is wanting; but in criminal charges it never should, unsupported by some oral testimony, or ocular demonstration, be sufficient to find a verdict against the accused.

The facts attending this dreadful tragedy were not fully brought to light until the death-bed confession of the murderer, when we must all endeavour to make our peace with God.

Mr. Hayes was a man of considerable property, and greatly respected. He had about him, when his sad destiny led him under the roof of Bradford, a considerable sum of money; the landlord, knowing this, determined to murder and rob him. For this horrid purpose he proceeded with a dark-lantern and a carving-knife, intending to cut the throat of his guest, while yet sleeping; but what must have been his astonishment and confusion, to find his victim already murdered, and weltering in his blood.

The wicked and unworthy servant had also contemplated to murder his master; and had just committed the bloody deed, and secured his treasure, a moment before the landlord entered for the same purpose!!!

MARTIN NOWLAND.

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, ON THE 24th OF FEBRUARY, 1742, FOR HIGH-TREASON.

THE folly of a man's attempting to recruit the French army in London, is more to be wondered at than the commission of the crime. This man, before he attempted to corrupt the allegiance of an Englishman, must surely have been apprized of the conviction and execution of Thomas Hennings, for enlisting a man for the King of Prussia,

Prussia, which took place just before he accepted a French commission, to commit a similar crime. Little more can be said of Nowland's case, than that it is treasonable in the highest degree, aiming a mortal blow at the constitution of our country, by enticing us to join our enemy. Yet we cannot, however, pass on to the particulars without expressing admiration at the loyalty of the brave soldiers whom he endeavoured to corrupt.

This traitor was a native of Ireland, and while a youth was decoyed from his parents, conveyed to Dunkirk, and entered into the regiment of Dillon. In this station he continued fourteen years, at the end of which time he was sent to London, to enlist men into the French service; and was promised a promotion on his return, as a reward for the diligence he might exert.

On his arrival in London he endeavoured to connect himself with people of the lower ranks, whom he thought most likely to be seduced by his artifices: and one day going on the quays near London-bridge, he met with two brothers, named Meredith, both of them in the army, but who occasionally worked on the quays, to make an addition to their military pay.

Having invited these men to a house in the Borough, he treated them with liquor, represented the emoluments that would arise from their entering into the French service, and among other things, said that, exclusive of their pay, they would receive four loaves of bread weekly.

When they were thus refreshed, Nowland prevailed on them to go to his lodgings in Kent-street, where he farther regaled them, and then said he hoped they would enter into the service. They expressed their readiness to do so; and said they could aid him in enlisting several other men, if he would spend the evening with them at a public-house in the Strand.

This proposal being assented to, they took him to a famous alehouse near the Savoy, called the Coal-hole, where Nowland was terrified at the sight of several soldiers of the guards; but the Merediths saying they were their intimate acquaintance, the parties adjourned to a room by themselves. Here the brothers asked Nowland
how

how much they were to receive for enlisting, which he told them would be four guineas; and that he was commissioned to pay their expences till they should join the regiment.

The intention of the brothers seems to have been to obtain some money of Nowland; but finding it was not in his power to advance any while they remained in England, one of them went to the serjeant at the Savoy, informing him of what had passed, and asked him how he must dispose of Nowland. The serjeant said he must be detained for the night, and taken before a magistrate on the following day.

On his return to the public-house, Nowland produced a certificate, signed by the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, as a proof that he was actually in the service of France. He likewise said that the soldiers must dispose of their clothes, and purchase others, to prevent their being detected at Dover; and he repeated his promise of the bounty-money, and other accommodations proper for a soldier, on their reaching the regiment.

When the Merediths, and the other soldiers, had drank at Nowland's expense till they were satisfied, they conveyed him to the round-house, and on the following day took him before a magistrate, to whom, after some hesitation, he acknowledged that he had been employed to enlist men for the Irish brigades in the service of France.

Inquiry being made respecting his accomplices, he acknowledged that a captain belonging to his regiment was in London, and that some other agents were soon expected in the kingdom: on which he was informed that he should be admitted an evidence if he would impeach his accomplices. He replied, "that he was a
"man of honour, and would never be guilty of hanging
"any other person to save his own life."

He was committed to Newgate in consequence of this confession, and being brought to his trial, he was convicted at the following sessions at the Old Bailey, and received sentence of death.

Nowland being of the Roman Catholic persuasion, it is not possible to give a particular account of his behaviour after conviction, as he declined holding any correspondence

respondence with the ordinary of Newgate. When he came to the fatal tree, he performed his devotions in his own way, and being executed, his body was carried to St. Giles's, and soon afterwards buried in St. Pancras church-yard, by some of his Roman Catholic friends.

This also was a case without the benefit of clergy; that is, affecting life. In our own account, immediately following the crime of Joseph Johnson, the pick-pocket, we gave an explanation of this legal term, "Benefit of Clergy;" and as we have since met with an anecdote of the most dignified of priesthood in the kingdom, we here subjoin it, in order to give our readers a more comprehensive view of these spiritual men, who, in former times, could rescue the most atrocious sinner from the gallows, by being bribed to teach him "to read and write as a priest."

In the reign of Henry VII. that monarch translated Wareham to the metropolitan see of Canterbury, in the year 1704.

He had given his mandate for taking possession of the archbishopric, where a-Becket was slain; and the day previous to his arrival at the city of Canterbury, Edward, Duke of Buckingham, his *High-Steward and Butler*, (mark, reader, a duke the humble butler of this priest) came thither with a train of nobles, and escorted by a hundred and fifty mounted soldiers. It however appears, from the ancient records, that his grace the Duke could not, in the court of his master, the priest, execute the office of High-Steward and Butler at the same time; he therefore appointed Sir George Bouchier his deputy in the butlership.

The next day his *grace* the Duke, having diligently made every preparation for his *grace* the Priest, his master, he met him, numerous and gorgeously attended, near St. Andrew's church, and from thence walked before him in great state to the altar of a-Becket. From thence, the Archbishop, as a proof to the ignorant and gulled multitude of his meekness and humility, walked barefoot, and was received by the Prior and Convent; and being placed on the THRONE, *after the accustomed manner*, he said mass.

From the church he was attended by the Duke, as before,

before to his palace, where a grand entertainment was provided in the great hall. The magnificence and variety would have sufficed for many kings.

Before the first course, the Duke, on horseback, with his white staff in his hand, the ensign of his office, preceded the dishes bareheaded.—Again, reader, mark the extent of priestly pride, a duke of the realm of Britain, bareheaded, escorting the food, wherewith to cram the gluttonous maw of a priest. The reader will soon find that this English duke dined not at the priest's table, but then, we know, that servants now-a-days do not sit at their master's table.

At the table of the Archbishop sat, on his right-hand, the Earl of Essex, the Bishop of Sodor and Man, and the Prior of the cathedral. On his left, Lord Abergavenny, Lord Brook, and the Abbot of St. Augustine. These were the Metropolitan's particular favourites. With the serving-man, the Duke, dined some Baronets, and some Judges of the superior Courts of Westminster, who meanly did this species of homage to the Priest. At a third table sat some Knights, and Doctors of Law, and of Divinity; at others, inferiors, by the dignified called the CANAILLE, that is, the best body of the people.

JOHN JENNINGS,

EXECUTED AT YORK, IN THE YEAR 1742, ON A CHARGE OF ROBBERY, OF WHICH HE WAS INNOCENT.

THIS unfortunate man was the victim of his master, in order to screen himself from the vengeance of the law. He was a waiter at the Bell Inn, near Hull, in Yorkshire, kept by a villain of the name of James Brunel.

A robbery had lately been committed on the highway, on an old man, a reputed miser; and who, for greater safety, generally carried a bag of gold about him. The old man, soon after being robbed, casually went into the Bell; and going up to the bar, saw Brunel, the landlord, with one of his guineas in his hand, and some shillings, which he was paying away to a carrier, which were all

marked, so that he could identify them. He consequently suspected that the landlord was the robber, and related the circumstance to some other persons in the house.

Brunel overheard the conversation, and to secure himself, instantly formed and executed a design to impute the robbery to his waiter, Jennings, who had gone early to sleep, in a state of intoxication. To this wicked end, he went to his bed, and put the purse, taken from the old man, with the greater part of its contents, in the unfortunate man's pocket, without waking him; and then coming down to the company, told them, that he believed he had found the thief. "I have," continued the villain, "long suspected Jennings, one of my waiters, and about five hours ago I gave him a guinea to get changed; he came back in liquor, and returned me a guinea, which I am sure is not the same which I gave him." He then produced the guinea, which being marked, was claimed by the old man. It was now proposed that Jennings should be searched, which was done, and the purse being found upon him, he was committed, tried, condemned, and executed.

Brunel, being convicted of another robbery, confessed these facts.

ROBERT FULLER,

CONVICTED OF SHOOTING MR. BAILEY, AND PARDONED. JUNE SESSIONS,
1743.

THIS case is chiefly inserted to elucidate our several observations on identity; and herein we shall find such doubts arising in the breasts of the jury, that they recommended the prisoner to mercy.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of May, 1744, Robert Fuller, of Harefield, in Middlesex, was indicted for shooting at Francis Bailey, with a gun loaded with powder and small stones, and demanding his money, with intent to rob him.

Mr. Bailey deposed that, as he was returning from Uxbridge-market, he saw a man near Harefield sitting on a stile, having a gun in his hand; that he jumped off the
stile,

stile, seized the horse's bridle, clapped the gun to Mr. Bailey's body, and threatened to shoot him. Mr. Bailey said, "That will do you no good, nor me neither:" he then put his hand repeatedly into Bailey's pocket; but the latter would not submit to be robbed, and rode off: immediately on which Fuller shot at him, and wounded him in the right arm, so as to break the bone in splinters; and many stones, and bits of the bone, were afterwards taken out of the arm: nor did the prosecutor recover of the wound till after languishing near twenty weeks.

The prisoner, however, had not an opportunity of robbing Mr. Bailey, as his horse took fright and ran away at the report of the gun.

The substance of Mr. Bailey's farther deposition was, that this happened about seven o'clock in the evening, on the 24th of February; but that, as it was a clear star-light night, he had a full view of the prisoner, whom he had known before.

Bailey was now asked, if he had ever been examined before any justice of the peace in relation to the fact; to which he answered in the negative. He was then asked, if he had never charged the crime on any other person except the prisoner, which he steadily denied having done.

In contradiction, however, a commitment was produced, in which Thomas Bowry was charged with assaulting Francis Bailey, with an intent to rob: and this Bowry was continued in custody, on the affidavit of Mr. Mellish, a surgeon, that Mr. Bailey was so ill of the wound he had received, that he could not come to London without danger of his life: but Bowry was discharged at the gaol delivery at the end of the sessions for June, 1743.

The copy of Bowry's commitment was now read, and authenticated by Richard Akerman, clerk of the papers to his father, the then keeper of Newgate.

On this contradictory evidence the characters of both parties were inquired into, when that of the prosecutor appeared to be very fair, that of the prisoner rather doubtful.

Upon considering the whole matter, the jury gave a verdict that he was guilty, but on account of the circumstance

stance above-mentioned, relating to the commitment of Bowry for the same offence, on Bailey's oath, they recommended the prisoner in the court as a proper object of the royal clemency, and he was accordingly pardoned.

This affair is one of that intricate nature, which must remain involved in mystery. It is impossible for us to say whether the prosecutor was, or was not, mistaken in the man against whom he swore ; but we see that he had sworn the same fact, with equal positiveness, against Bowry : and this circumstance evinces the great propriety of the jury recommending the convict to mercy, where there is even but a bare probability remaining of his innocence. In doubtful cases we should always incline to the side of mercy ; and it ought to be remembered, to the credit of the court at the Old Bailey, that this rule is constantly attended to ; and it is a known fact that persons charged with capital offences have been frequently heard to declare, that they would rather take their trials at the Old Bailey, than in any other court in the kingdom.

LYDIA ADLER,

CONVICTED OF MANSLAUGHTER, IN KILLING HER HUSBAND, WHO HAD
FOUR WIVES. JUNE SESSIONS, 1744.

THIS woman was tried at the Old Bailey, at the sessions held in June, 1744, for the wilful murder of her husband, John Adler, by throwing him on the ground, kicking and stamping on his groin, and giving him thereby a mortal bruise, of which he languished in St. Bartholomew's Hospital from the 11th till the 23d of May, and then died : and she was again indicted on the coroner's inquest for manslaughter.

Hannah Adler, daughter of the deceased, swore that he told her his wife had given him the wounds which afterwards occasioned his death.

Benjamin Barton deposed, that the deceased came to him on the 11th of May, with a bloody handkerchief about his head, and asked him for a spare bed, saying, " This infernal fiend, (meaning his wife) will be the death
of

of me :” but Barton, knowing the woman to be of a very turbulent disposition, refused to lodge the man. After this, he visited him every other day during his illness, and he very often said, “ I wish, Mr. Barton, you would be “ so good as to get a warrant to secure this woman, for “ she will be the death of me ;” and, two hours before he died, he inquired if such a warrant was procured, desiring that Barton would see her brought to justice, which he promised he would, if it lay in his power.

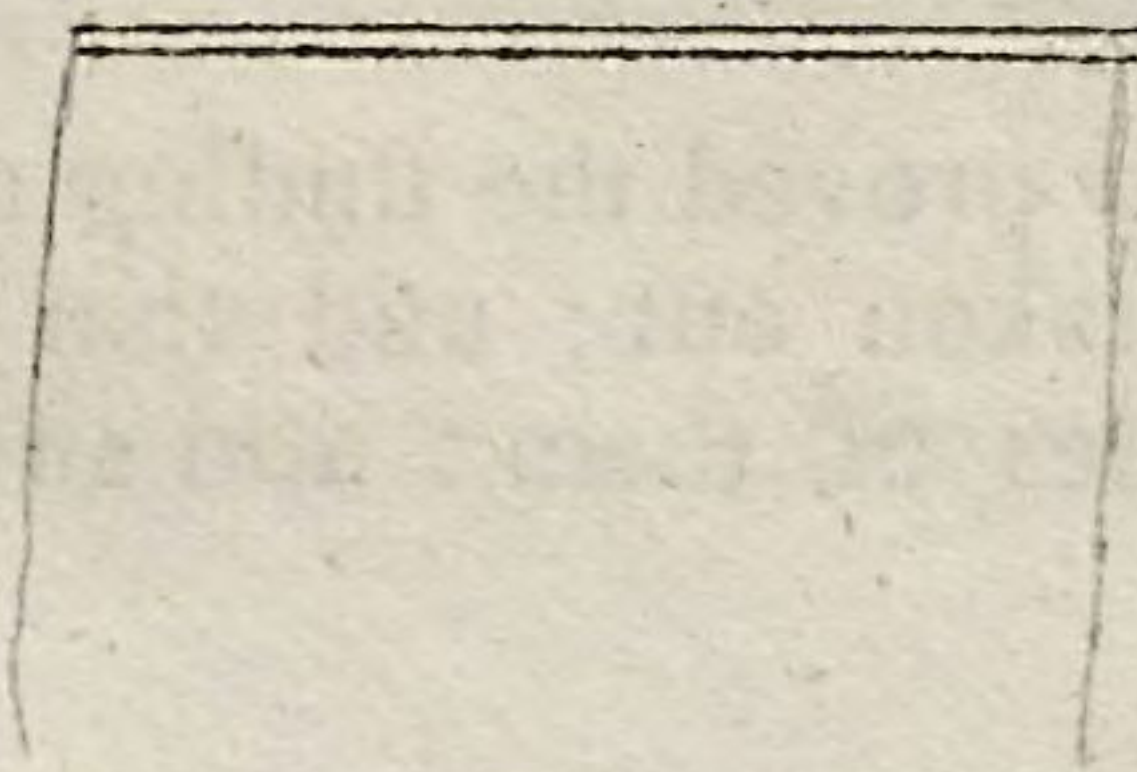
Hannah Adler, being farther questioned, said that her father died between twelve and one o’clock : that, about two hours and a half before, he said, “ I am a dead man, “ and this lady (the prisoner) has killed me.” That, after this, he repeatedly declared that his wife was the person who had murdered him, and begged she might be brought to justice. His last declaration was made only about ten minutes before he died.

Mr. Godman, a surgeon, deposed that the husband died of a mortification, occasioned by a blow ; but acknowledged that the deceased had a rupture, and that such a blow as he had received would not have hurt a person in sound health.

The prisoner in her defence said, that her husband had two wives besides her ; and that a quarrel happening between her and one of the wives, the husband endeavoured to part them, and in so doing fell down, and the other woman fell on him ; but that she herself never lifted hand or foot against him.

Joseph Steel deposed, that the deceased had had four wives ; that he was kind to them all at the first, but afterwards used to beat them severely ; and that he had seen the prisoner and her husband frequently fight together.

The jury gave a verdict of manslaughter ; in consequence of which she was burnt in the hand.



PATRICK

PATRICK BOURKE and GEORGE ELLIS,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, FEBRUARY 20, 1745, FOR SHEEP-STEALING.

By an act of parliament passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of King George II. for the security of farmers and graziers, it is thus enacted :

“ If any person or persons, after the first day of May, 1741, shall feloniously drive away, or in any manner feloniously steal any sheep, or shall wilfully kill one or more sheep, with intent to steal the whole, or any part of the carcasses, the person or persons so offending shall suffer death, without benefit of clergy.”

Though this wholesome law extends to the punishment of death to any person offending against it, and though the crime is as frequently committed as the stealing of horses, yet few are executed for sheep-stealing. That this extreme punishment of the law is so seldom put in force, is through the lenity of our judges : arising, without doubt, from a presumption that no one would steal a sheep or a loaf of bread, unless impelled by the unresisting cries of hunger. But these offenders, who killed whole flocks in order to plunder the fat alone, most fully deserved their punishment.

Patrick Bourke, and George Ellis, were indicted at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1744, for killing fifteen ewe sheep, the property of John Messenger, of Kensington, with intention to steal part of the carcasses, to wit, the fat near the kidneys.

Mr. Messenger deposed, that he had lost fifteen ewes ; that their throats were cut, their bellies ripped open, and the fat taken out ; and likewise said, that he had lost twenty-seven lambs, which were taken out of those ewes ; he further deposed, that both the prisoners confessed the crime before Sir Thomas Devil on the Tuesday following : and that Bourke acknowledged they sold the fat to a tallow-chandler, for forty-one shillings and two-pence halfpenny.

Richard Twyford proved the finding the sheep ripped open, and the fat taken out ; and that the lambs were dragging by the sides of them : and swore that the prisoners

soners had owned the taking the gates from the farm to pen the sheep up.

Joseph Agnew, a constable, swore that Ellis came to him ; and after having told him of a quarrel between him and Bourke, who had given him two black eyes, he acknowledged that he had been concerned with him in the commission of the crime above-mentioned. Hereupon the constable took with him three watchmen, and going to Bourke's lodgings, seized him in bed, and found a clasp-knife, laying on the ground near the feet of the bed, on which was some fat, which likewise remained when the knife was produced in court on the trial.

Bourke, in his defence, said, that he was kept drunk by the constable, in order to induce him to make a confession ; but this not being credited by the jury, and there being other proofs of the fact having been acknowledged, they were capitally convicted, and received sentence of death.

At the summer assizes in 1757, for the county of Lincoln, a deaf and dumb man, called Matthew Pullen, was indicted for sheep-stealing. The court ordered a jury to be empannelled, not to try him for larceny, but to inquire whether he stood mute by the act of providence, or through obstinacy. It was proved by his father-in-law, and some neighbours, that from his infancy he was deaf and dumb, and the jury therefore brought in their verdict, " that he stood mute by the act of God," and he was discharged in gaol-delivery.

Hence, there being no punishment for crimes committed by the *deaf and dumb*, more than such as are proved *non compos mentis*, the actions of both ought to be kept under restraint. This deaf and dumb sheep-stealer can hardly be supposed to have been unconscious of doing wrong, when committing the robbery upon his neighbour's flock.

*WILLIAM CHETWYND,**(A School-Boy of the Academy in Soho-Square,)*

TRIED FOR THE MURDER OF HIS SCHOOL-FELLOW, AND CONVICTED OF MANSLAUGHTER; A VERY SINGULAR CASE, AND BY A SPECIAL VERDICT LEFT TO THE OPINION OF THE TWELVE JUDGES.

WE earnestly recommend the attention of youth to the unfortunate case of Master Chetwynd, hoping that it will warn them against the effects of passion; and, that even if provoked by a school-fellow, to be careful how they shew their resentment.

This unfortunate young gentleman was placed at the academy in Soho-square, and was about fifteen years of age at the time the misfortune happened, of which we are now to give an account: and at the same school was a youth named Thomas Rickets, then in the nineteenth year of his age.

At the sessions held in the Old Bailey in October, 1743, the above-named William Chetwynd was indicted for the murder of Thomas Rickets, and was likewise indicted on the statute of stabbing.

The affair on which the above prosecution was founded, is as follows:

Chetwynd being in possession of a piece of cake, Rickets asked him for some of it, on which he gave him a small piece; but refusing to give him a second, which he desired, he cut off a piece for himself, and laid it on a bureau, while he went to lock up the chief part of the cake for his use.

In the interim Rickets took the cake which had been left on the bureau, and when Chetwynd returned and demanded it, he refused to deliver it; on which a dispute arose, and Chetwynd having still in his hand the knife with which he had cut the cake, wounded the other in the left side of the belly.

Hannah Humphreys, a servant in the house, coming at that time into the room, Rickets said, that he was stabbed, and complained much of the pain that he felt from the wound; on which Humphreys said to Chetwynd, “ You
“ have

“ have done very well ;” to which the latter replied, “ If I have hurt him, I am very sorry for it.”

The wounded youth being carried to bed, languished three days under the hands of the surgeons, and then expired. In the interim, Chetwynd, terrified at what had happened, quitted the school ; but as soon as he heard of the death of Rickets, he went to a magistrate, to abide the equitable decision of a verdict of his countrymen ; and he was brought to his trial at the time and place above-mentioned.

The counsel in behalf of the prisoner acknowledged the great candour of the gentlemen who were concerned for the prosecution, in their not endeavouring to aggravate the circumstances attending the offence. They confessed the truth of all that had been sworn by the witnesses ; but insisted, in behalf of the accused party, that though his hand might have made an unhappy blow, his heart was innocent.

The following is the substance of their arguments on the case : They said, that the fact could not amount to murder at common law, which Lord Coke defines to be “ an unlawful killing another man with malice aforethought,” either expressed by the party, or implied by the law. They said, that in this case, there was not the least malice, as the young gentlemen were friends, not only at the time, but to the close of Ricket’s life, when he declared that he forgave the other.

They said, that it being proved that there was a friendship subsisting, it would be talking against the sense of mankind to say the law could imply any thing contrary to what was plainly proved. That deliberation and cruelty of disposition, make the essential difference between manslaughter and murder ; and they quoted several legal authorities in support of this doctrine.

One of their arguments was urged in the following words : “ Shall the young boy at the bar, who was doing
“ a lawful act, be said to be guilty of murder ? He was
“ rescuing what was his own : the witnesses have told
“ you, that after he had given Rickets a piece of cake,
“ Rickets went to him for more ; he denied to give it
“ him ; he had a right to keep his cake, and the other
“ had

“ had no right to take it ; and he had a right to re-
 “ take it.

“ There are cases in the books which make a differ-
 “ ence between murder and manslaughter. If a man
 “ takes up a bar of iron, and throws it at another, it is
 “ murder ; and the difference in the crime lies between
 “ the person’s taking it up, and having it in his hand :
 “ Chetwynd had the knife in his hand, and upon that a
 “ provocation ensues, for he did not take the knife up ;
 “ if he had, that would have shewn an intention to do
 “ mischief. It may be doubted, whether or no when he
 “ had this knife in his hand for a lawful purpose, and in
 “ an instant struck the other, whether he considered he
 “ had the knife in his hand ; for if in his passion he in-
 “ tended to strike with his hand, it is not a striking with
 “ the knife.

“ That it was to be considered whether there was not
 “ evidence to except this case from the letter of the sta-
 “ tute 1 James I.”

The other arguments of the counsel were to the follow-
 ing purpose :

“ At the beginning of the fray, Rickets had a knife in
 “ his hand ; and it was one continued act. And another
 “ question is, whether there was not a struggle ; here
 “ was the cake taken, and in endeavouring to get it again,
 “ this accident happens ; at the first taking of the cake,
 “ it is in evidence, that Chetwynd was not forced to ex-
 “ tend his arms, unless the other was coming to take it
 “ from him, and then a struggle is a blow.

“ This act of the 1 James I. was made for a particular
 “ purpose : on the union of the two kingdoms, there were
 “ national factions and jealousies, when wicked persons,
 “ to conceal the malice lurking in their hearts, would sud-
 “ denly stab others, and screen themselves from the law,
 “ by having the act looked upon as the result of an imme-
 “ diate quarrel. That this statute has always been looked
 “ upon as a hard law, and therefore always construed by
 “ the judges, in favour of the prisoner. That when the
 “ fact only amounts to manslaughter at common law, it has
 “ been the custom of the court to acquit upon this statute.”

“ The counsel for the crown, in reply, submitted it to
 “ the

“ the court, whether (since the only points insisted on by
“ way of defence for the prisoner, were questions at law,
“ in which the jury were to be guided by their opinion)
“ the facts proved and admitted did not clearly, in the
“ the first place, amount to murder at common law ; and,
“ in the second place, whether there could be the least
“ doubt in point of law, but that the case was within the
“ statute of 1 James I.

“ Upon the first it was admitted, that to constitute
“ murder there must be malice.

“ But it was argued, that malice was of two kinds,
“ either expressed and in fact, or implied by law.

“ But when one person kills another without provoca-
“ tion, it is murder, because the law presumes and im-
“ plies malice from the act done. And therefore, when-
“ ever any person kills another it is murder, unless some
“ sufficient provocation appear. But it is not every pro-
“ vocation that extenuates the killing of a man from mur-
“ der into manslaughter. A slight or trivial provocation
“ is the same as none, and is not allowed in law to be any
“ justification or excuse for the death of another. And
“ therefore no words of reproach or infamy, whatever
“ provoking circumstances they may be attended with :
“ no affronting gestures, or deriding postures, however
“ insolent or malicious, are allowed to be put in balance
“ with the life of a man, and to extenuate the offence
“ from murder to manslaughter.

“ For the same reason, no sudden quarrel upon a sud-
“ den provocation, shall justify such an act of cruelty as
“ one man’s stabbing another, though it be done imme-
“ diately in the heat of passion. As if two persons, play-
“ ing at tables, fall out in their game, and the one upon a
“ sudden kills the other with a dagger ; this was held to
“ be murder by Bromley, at Chester assizes.

“ In like manner, no trespass on lands or goods shall
“ be allowed to be any excuse for one man’s attacking
“ another in such a manner as apparently endangers his
“ life, and could not be intended merely as a chastisement
“ for his offence ; because no violent acts beyond the pro-
“ portion of the provocation receive countenance from
“ the law.

“ And, therefore, if a man beats another for trespass-
“ ing upon his goods or lands, and does not desist, he will
“ be justified by law ; because what he does is only in de-
“ fence of his property, and no more than a chastisement
“ to the offender.

“ But (says the Lord Chief Justice Holt) if one man be
“ trespassing on another, breaking his hedges, or the
“ like, and the owner, or his servant, shall upon sight
“ thereof, take up a hedge-stake, and knock him on the
“ head, that will be murder ; because it is a violent act
“ beyond the proportion of the provocation.

“ That applying the rules of law to the present case, it
“ was plain, that the violent act done, bore no proportion
“ to the provocation. All the provocation given was tak-
“ ing up a piece of cake, which is not such an offence,
“ as can justify the prisoner’s attacking the person who
“ took it up, with an instrument, that apparently endan-
“ gered his life, or rather carried certain death along
“ with it.

“ On the second indictment it was said that the coun-
“ sel for the prisoner had in effect contended, that the
“ statute 1 James I. should never be allowed to compre-
“ hend any one case whatsoever, or extend to any one of-
“ fender, which would entirely frustrate that statute ; since
“ it was only made in order to exclude such persons who
“ stabbed others upon the sudden, from the benefit of
“ clergy : and was intended as a sort of correction to the
“ common law, by restraining such offenders through fear
“ of due punishment, who were emboldened by presum-
“ ing on the benefit of clergy, allowed by the common law.
“ But if it is to exclude none from their clergy, who at
“ common law would have been entitled to it, it can ne-
“ ver have any effect, and may be as well repealed.

“ And if the statute is to have any force or effect at
“ all, there can be no doubt but it must extend to the pre-
“ sent case. It is expressly within the words : Mr.
“ Rickets was stabbed, having then no weapon drawn in
“ his hand, and not having before struck the person who
“ stabbed him. It is plain within the intention ; which
“ is declared in the preamble to have been in order to
“ punish stabbing or killing upon the sudden, committed
“ in

“in rage, or any other passion of the mind, &c. and
 “therefore it was submitted to the court, whether upon
 “the facts proved, and not denied, the consequence of
 “the law was not clear, that the prisoner was guilty within
 “both indictments.”

Mr. Baron Reynolds and Mr. Recorder, before whom the prisoner was tried, taking notice of the points of law that had arisen, the learned arguments of the counsel, and the many cases cited upon this occasion, were of opinion, that it would be proper to have the facts found specially, that they might be put in a way of receiving a more solemn determination.

A special verdict was accordingly agreed on by all parties, and drawn up in the usual manner, viz. by giving a true state of the facts as they appear in evidence, and concluding thus: “We find that the deceased was about
 “the age of nineteen, and Mr. Chetwynd about the age
 “of fifteen; and that of this wound the deceased died,
 “on the 29th of the said September; but whether upon
 “the whole, the prisoner is guilty of all, or any of the said
 “indictment, the jurors submit to the judgment of the
 “court.”

In consequence of this special verdict, the case was argued before the twelve judges, who deemed Chetwynd to have been guilty of manslaughter only; whereupon he was set at liberty, after being burnt in the hand.

Contemplating the case of this unfortunate youth, and the law thereupon, we are led into reflections on the comparative functions of the JUDGES and COUNSELLORS.

The *Judge* labours to discover the truth.

The *Pleader* takes pains to conceal or disguise it.

The *Judge* seeks that medium which is the seat of equity.

The *Pleader* contends for extremes.

The *Judge* must act up to the strict letter of the law, severe, rigid, and inflexible in some cases—merciful in others.

The *Pleader* is supple, pliant, fawning, flattering his client, and espousing his interest.

The *Judge* constant, uniform, invariable.

The

The *Pleader* ever changes sides.

The *Judge* divests himself of passions.

The *Pleader* assumes them, and endeavours to raise them in others.

The *Judge* holds an even balance in the scales of Justice ; but,

The *Pleader* ever endeavours to make the one or the other preponderate.

MARTHA TRACY,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, FEB. 16, 1745, FOR A STREET ROBBERY.

THE fate of this unfortunate malefactor, adduces another instance of the melancholy effects of female seduction. That man who robs an innocent girl of her virtue, and then abandons her to shame and want, though the law has not made provision for an adequate punishment, yet surely can never more taste the sweets of a contented mind.

This much injured, but vain woman, was a native of Bristol, and descended from poor parents, who educated her in the best manner in their power. Getting a place in the service of a merchant, when she was sixteen years of age, she lived with him three years, and then came to London.

Having procured a place in a house where lodgings were let to single gentlemen, and being a girl of an elegant appearance, and fond of dress, she was liable to a variety of temptations.

Her vanity being even more than equal to her beauty, she at length conceived that she had made a conquest of one of the gentlemen lodgers, and was foolish enough to think he would marry her.

With a view of keeping alive the passion she thought she had inspired, she sought every pretence of going into his chamber, and he having some design against her virtue, purchased her some new clothes, in which she
went

went to church on the following Sunday, where she was observed by her mistress.

On their return from church, the mistress strictly inquired how she came to be possessed of such fine clothes; and having learnt the real state of the case, she was discharged from her service on the Monday morning.

As she still thought the gentleman intended marriage, she wrote to him, desiring he would meet her at a public-house; and on his attending, she wept incessantly, and complained of the treatment she had met with from her mistress, which she attributed to the presents she had received from him.

The seducer advised her to calm her spirits, and go into lodgings which he would immediately provide her, and where he could securely visit her till the marriage should take place.

Deluded by this artifice, she went that day to lodge at a house in the Strand, which he said was kept by a lady who was related to him. In this place he visited her on the following and several successive days; attending her to public places, and making her presents of elegant clothes, which effectually flattered her vanity, and lulled asleep the small remains of her virtue.

It is needless to say that her ruin followed. After a connexion of a few months, she found him less frequent in his visits; and informing him that she was with-child, demanded that he would make good his promise of marriage: on which he declared that he had never intended to marry her, and that he would not maintain her any longer; and hinted that she should seek another lodging.

On the following day the mistress of the house told her that she must not remain there any longer, unless she would pay for her lodgings in advance, which being unable to do, or perhaps unwilling to remain in a house where she had been so unworthily treated, she packed up her effects, and removed to another lodging.

When she was brought to bed, the father took away the infant, and left the wretched mother in a very distressed situation. Having subsisted for some time by pawning her clothes, she was at length so reduced as to listen to the advice of a woman of the town, who persuaded

suaded her to procure a subsistence by the casual wages of prostitution.

Having embarked in this horrid course of life, she soon became a common street-walker, and experienced all those calamities incident to so deplorable a situation. Being sometimes tempted to pick pockets for a subsistence, she became an occasional visitor at Bridewell, where her mind grew only the more corrupt by the conversation of the abandoned wretches confined in that place.

We come now to speak of the fact, the commission of which forfeited her life to the violated laws of her country.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey, in the month of January, 1745, she was indicted for robbing William Humphreys of a guinea on the king's highway.

The fact was, that being passing, at midnight, near Northumberland-house in the Strand, she accosted Mr. Humphreys, who declining to hold any correspondence with her, two fellows with whom she was connected came up, and one of them knocking him down, they both ran away; when she robbed him of a guinea which she concealed in her mouth: but Mr. Humphreys seizing her, and two persons coming up, she was conducted to the watch-house, where the guinea was found in her mouth, as above-mentioned by the constable of the night.

At her trial, it was proved that she had called the men, one of whom knocked down the prosecutor; so that there could be no doubt of her being an accomplice with them; whereupon the jury brought her in guilty.

After conviction she appeared to have a proper idea of her former guilt, and the horrors of her present situation. In fact she was a sincere penitent, and lamented that pride of heart which had first seduced her to destruction.

She behaved with the greatest decency and propriety to the last moment of her life.

MATTHEW

MATTHEW HENDERSON,

EXECUTED IN OXFORD-STREET, FEBRUARY 25, 1746, FOR ONE OF THE MOST PREMEDITATED AND CRUEL MURDERS IN OUR WHOLE CALENDAR.

IN this man's mind we find an extraordinary instance of the struggle between conscience and revenge. His mistress, however she might overstep the character of her sex, and disgrace him by a blow, did not deserve punishment at his hands.

This offender was the son of honest parents, and born at North Berwick, in Scotland, where he was educated in the liberal manner customary in that country.

Sir Hugh Dalrymple, being a member of the British parliament, took Henderson into his service when fourteen years of age, and brought him to London. Before he was nineteen years old, he married one of his master's maids; but Sir Hugh, who had a great regard for him, did not dismiss him, though he was greatly chagrined at this circumstance.

Some few days before the commission of the murder, Sir Hugh having occasion to go out of town for a month, summoned Henderson to assist in dressing him: and while he was thus employed, Sir Hugh's lady going into the room, the servant casually trod on her toe. She said not a word on the occasion, but looked at him with a degree of rage that made him extremely uneasy.

When Sir Hugh had taken his leave, she demanded of Henderson why he had trod on her toe; in answer to which he made many apologies, and ascribed the circumstance to mere accident, but she gave him a blow on the ear, and declared that she would dismiss him from her service.

Henderson said it would be unnecessary to turn him away, for he would go without compulsion; but reflecting that her passion would soon subside, he continued in his place, and was used with as much kindness as if the accident had not taken place.

Offended by the insult that had been offered him,

Henderson began to consider how he should be revenged, and at length came to the fatal resolution of murdering his mistress.

For the particulars of this barbarous deed, we refer to his confession in Newgate, taken in writing by the ordinary the day before his execution.

He first expresses a lively and suitable sense of his condition, and calls God to witness that this account contains the truth, the whole of the truth, and nothing but the truth.

He says he was born in the town of North Berwick, in Scotland, and was nineteen years of age the 28th past; his father was still living, and accounted a very honest, industrious man; his education was the best his father could afford, and his character, before this fact, blameless; his mother has been dead several years, which he mentions with satisfaction, because, as she loved him tenderly, he believed this affair would certainly have broke her heart.

He had lived with his master five years, about three years in Scotland, and two years in London, and declares no servant could be better used than he was, and that he never had the least dislike to the deceased, for that she was a lady of great humanity, and greatly respected by all her servants, and his master a most worthy gentleman.

On March 25, 1746, about eleven at night, Mary Platt, the maid-servant, told him she would go and see her husband, and he said she might do as she pleased: she went, and took the key to let herself in again; he shut the door after her, and went and cleaned some plate in the kitchen. From thence he went up into the back-parlour, where he used to lie, and let down his bed, in order to go to sleep. He pulled off his shoes, and tied up his hair with his garter, and that moment the thought came into his head to kill his lady. He went down stairs into the kitchen, and took a small iron cleaver, and came into his bed-chamber again, and sat down on his bed about twenty minutes, considering whether he should commit the murder. His heart relented, and he thought he could not do it, because he never had received any
affront ;

affront; however, he concluded to do it, as there was none in the house but the deceased and himself.

He went up to the first landing-place on the stairs, and after tarrying a minute or two, came down, shocked at the crime he was about to perpetrate. He sat down on his bed for a little while, and then went up again, as far as the dining-room, but was again so shocked he could not proceed, and came down again, and sat on his bed some minutes, and had almost determined with himself not to commit the murder; but, he says, the devil was very busy with him, and that he was in such agonies as cannot be expressed. He went up again as far as the first window, and the watchman was going—"past twelve o'clock."

After the watchman had passed the door, and all was silent, he came down two or three steps, but presently went up again as far as his lady's room door, having the cleaver all the time in his hand, and opened it, it not being locked; he went into the room, but could not kill her; he was in great fear and terror, and went out of the room, as far as the stair-head, about three yards from her chamber-door, but immediately returned, with a full resolution to murder her.

He entered the room a second time, went to the bedside, undrew the curtains, and found she was fast asleep. He went twice from the bed to the door in great perplexity of mind, the deceased being still asleep: he had no candle, and believes if there had been a light he could not have committed the murder. He continued in great agonies, but soon felt where she lay, and made twelve or fourteen motions with the cleaver before he struck her.

The first blow he missed, but the second he struck her on the head, and she endeavoured to get out of bed on that side next the door; when he struck her again she moved to the other side of the bed, and spoke several words which he can't remember. He repeated his blows, and in struggling she fell out of bed next the window, and then he thought it was time to put her out of her misery, and struck her with all his might as she lay on the floor: she bled very much, and he cut the curtains in several places when he missed his blows.

All the words she said, when he struck her the third or fourth blow, were, "O Lord, what is this!" She rattled in her throat very much, and he was so frightened that he ran down stairs, and threw the chopping-knife into the privy.

He then went into his bed-chamber again, and sat down on his bed for about ten minutes, when it came into his head to rob the house, which he solemnly declares he had no intention to do before he committed the murder.

When he had determined to rob the house, he directly struck a light, went into the deceased's bed-chamber, and took her pockets, as they were hanging on the chair, and took a gold watch, two diamond rings out of the drawers, with several other things, but does not remember all the particulars; she was not dead then, but rattled very much in the throat, and he was so surprised that he scarcely knew what he did, and would have given ten thousand worlds could he have recalled what he had done.

When he had taken what he thought proper, he went out of the street-door, and fastened it with a piece of cord, and when he came into the street he was so terrified that he could scarcely walk: he went into Holborn, where his wife lodged, and all the way he went he thought his murdered lady followed him. The watchman was going—"past one o'clock," as he was going along Holborn; so that he was near a full hour in committing this most horrid deed.

He put what things he had taken into a box at his wife's lodgings, who asked him what he did there at that time o'night, and several other questions; to all which he answered, it was no business of her's: he solemnly declares his wife, and every other person, entirely innocent and ignorant of the fact.

He did not stay here more than a quarter of an hour, and then returned to his master's; but, by endeavouring to break the string with which he had fastened the door, he shut himself out, so that he was obliged to wait till the maid came home, which was about six o'clock; he told her he had been to get some shirts that were mending, and had locked himself out.

The

The maid, on opening the windows, first below, and then above, by degrees discovered that there had been a robbery, and by some blood on the stairs suspected her lady was killed. She told him, from time to time, what things she missed as she went about the house, and lastly, with the blood on the stairs ; on which he desired she would go into her lady's room, and see if it was really so ; she consented, and he went to the door with her ; she came out presently, crying out, "It is so ! It is so !" He then went and acquainted a gentleman, who was nephew to his master, that somebody had broke into the house, and he suspecting the maid, who had been out all night, took her before the justice first, who thought proper, on hearing her examination, to send for him. He was very ready to go, and declares he had no thought of escaping, though he had great opportunity so to do.

He at first denied the facts, and accused two innocent persons ; but being very much confounded by the cross questions then put to him, he at length confessed the fact. He appeals to all that knew him for the irreproachableness of his life before this happened, and again declares himself alone guilty of, and privy to the murder, and that he was not prompted by either malice or interest, and never thought of committing so dreadful a crime till a quarter of an hour before the perpetration of it.

This murder, with respect to the manner in which it was committed, the sex and station of the person murdered, and the circumstances and obligations of the murderer, is one of the most horrid and aggravated that perhaps ever happened.

The above solemn declaration is, however, more extraordinary than all the rest, and reduces the contemplative mind to a very perplexing and displeasing dilemma ; for if it is false, this person, who is under the strongest conviction of the enormity of his crime, and appears to be touched with the most bitter remorse for the past, and tormented with agonizing fears of the future, while he is contemplating God as a judge, before whom he is to appear in a few hours, has called him to witness a studied falsehood, when he could suffer nothing in this world by telling the truth, and would have had unspeakably

bly less to fear in the next. But, if it is true, he had either been a mere instrument in the hand of some powerful and invisible agent, hurried on by an irresistible supernatural impulse, which neither the abhorrence of such a fact, essential to human nature, nor his fear of punishment, could overcome, though the struggle threw him into the most dreadful agony imaginable;—or, here is an action without a motive, that is, an effect without a cause, or he must have acted in opposition to his nature, his conscience, and his interest, with respect to both worlds, and all this without gratifying any passion, without obtaining any present enjoyment; in short, for no reason, and to no end.

Which side soever we take, the difficulty is equal; for it must be confessed, either that he has forfeited his last hope of mercy, by calling God to witness a lie, without serving any present purpose; or that he committed the murder without any motive, or under the irresistible impulse of an evil spirit; all which, according to the best established doctrines concerning the nature of the human mind, and the modern government of the world, are repugnant, and indeed impossible.

HENRY SIMMS,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, AFTER RETURNING FROM TRANSPORTATION, FOR
HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

DISOBEDIENCE to parents generally leads to an ignominious fate. This man, losing his father at a tender age, ought to have been doubly grateful to his grandmother, who took the care of him upon herself; instead of which, we shall find him, while yet a boy, robbing his benefactress.

Henry Simms was born in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London, and was soon, as we have already observed, a helpless orphan. His grandmother, who was a dissenter, sent him first to a school kept by a clergyman of her own persuasion; but as he frequently ran away, she placed him at an academy in St. James's parish, where

where he became a proficient in writing and arithmetic, and was likewise a tolerable Latin and French scholar.

Before the boy had completed his tenth year, he gave a specimen of his dishonest disposition. His grandmother taking him with her on a visit to a tradesman's house, he stole twenty shillings from the till in the shop, which being observed by the maid-servant, she informed her master, and the money being found on the youth, he was severely punished.

He now began to lie from home on nights, and associated with the vilest of company, in the purlieus of St. Giles's. His companions advising him to rob his grandmother, he stole seventeen pounds from her, and taking his best apparel, repaired to St. Giles's, where his new acquaintance made him drunk, put him to bed, and then robbed him of his money and clothes.

On his waking he covered himself with some rags he found in the room, and after strolling through the streets in search of the villains, went into an alehouse, the landlord of which, hearing his tale, interceded with his grandmother to take him again under her protection. To this, after some hesitation, she consented, and buying a chain with a padlock, she had him fastened, during the day-time, to the kitchen-grate, and at night he slept with a man, who was directed to take care that he did not escape.*

After a month of confinement he had his liberty granted him, and new clothes purchased, with which he immediately went among some young thieves who were tossing up for money in St. Giles's. On the approach of night they took him to a brick-kiln near Tottenham-court-road, where they broiled some steaks, and supped in concert, and were soon joined by some women, who brought some geneva, with which the whole company regaled themselves.

Simms falling asleep, was robbed of his clothes; and when the brick-makers came to work in the morning, they found him in his shirt only; and while they were conducting him towards town, he was met by his grandmother's

* Coercive measures of this kind seldom effect the intended purpose.

servant, who was in search of him, and conveyed him to her house.

Notwithstanding his former behaviour, the old lady received him kindly, and placed him with a breeches-maker, who having corrected him for his ill-behaviour, he ran away, and taking his best clothes from his grandmother's house in her absence, sold them to a Jew, and spent the money in extravagance.

The old gentlewoman now went to live at the house of Lady Stanhope, whither the graceless boy followed her, and being refused admittance, he broke several of the windows. This, in some measure, compelled his grandmother to admit him; but that very night he robbed the house of as many things as produced him nine pounds, which he carried to a barn in Marybone-fields, and spent it among his dissolute companions.

For this offence he was apprehended, and, after some hesitation, confessed where he had sold the effects. From this time his grandmother gave him up as incorrigible; and being soon afterwards apprehended as a pickpocket, he was discharged for want of evidence.

Simms now associated with the worst of company; but after a narrow escape on a charge of being concerned in sending a threatening letter to extort money, and two of his companions being transported for other offences, he seemed deterred from continuing his evil courses, and thereupon wrote to his grandmother, entreating her further protection.

Still anxious to save him from destruction, she prevailed on a friend to take him into his house, where for some time he behaved regularly; but getting among his old associates, they robbed a gentleman of his watch and money, and threw him into a ditch in Marybone-fields; when some persons accidentally coming up, prevented his destruction.

Two more of Simms's companions being now transported, he hired himself to an inn-keeper as a driver of a post-chaise; and after that lived as postillion to a nobleman, but was soon discharged on account of his irregular conduct.

Having received some wages, he went again among the
the

the thieves, who dignified him with the title of *Gentleman Harry*, on account of his presumed skill, and the gentility of his appearance.

Simms now became intimately acquainted with a woman who lived with one of his accomplices, in revenge for which the fellow procured both him and the woman to be taken into custody on a charge of felony, and they were committed to Newgate; but the court paying no regard to the credibility of the witnesses, the prisoners were acquitted.

Soon after his discharge, Simms robbed a gentleman of his watch and 17*l.* on Blackheath; and likewise robbed a lady of a considerable sum near the same spot. Being followed to Lewisham, he was obliged to quit his horse, when he presented two pistols to his pursuers; by which he intimidated them so as to effect his escape, though with the loss of his horse.

Repairing to London, he bought another horse, and travelling into Northamptonshire, and putting up at an inn at Towcester, learnt that a military gentleman had hired a chaise for London; on which he followed the chaise the next morning, and kept up with it for several miles. At length the gentleman observing him, said, "Don't ride so hard, sir, you'll soon ride away your whole estate;" to which Simms replied, "Indeed I shall not, for it lays in several counties;" and instantly quitting his horse, he robbed the gentleman of one hundred and two guineas.

He now hastened to London, and having dissipated his ill-acquired money at a gaming-table, he rode out towards Hounslow, and meeting the postillion who had driven the above-mentioned gentleman in Northamptonshire, he gave him five shillings, begging he would not take notice of having seen him.

A reward being at length offered for apprehending Simms, he entered on board a privateer; but being soon weary of a sea-faring life, he deserted, and enlisted for a soldier. While in this station, he knocked out the eye of a woman at a house of ill-fame; for which he was apprehended, and lodged in New Prison.

Soon after this Justice De Veil admitted him an evi-

dence against some felons, his accomplices, who were transported, and Simms regained his liberty.

Being apprehended for robbing a baker's shop, he was convicted, and being sentenced to be transported, was accordingly shipped on board one of the transport-vessels, which sailing round to the Isle of Wight, he formed a plan for seizing the captain, and effecting an escape : but as a strict watch was kept on him, it was not possible for him to carry this plan into execution.

The ship arriving at Maryland, Simms was sold for 12 guineas *, but he found an early opportunity of deserting from the purchaser. Having learnt that his master's horse was left tied to a gate at some distance from the dwelling-house, he privately decamped in the night, and rode thirty miles in four hours, through extremely bad roads ; so powerfully was he impelled by his fears.

He now found himself by the sea-side, and, turning the horse loose, he hailed a vessel just under sail, from which a boat was sent to bring him on board. As hands were very scarce, the captain offered him six guineas, which were readily accepted, to work his passage to England.

There being at this time a war between England and France, the ship was taken by a French privateer, but soon afterwards ransomed, and Simms entered on board a man of war, where his diligence promoted him to the rank of a midshipman ; but the ship had no sooner arrived at Plymouth than he quitted his duty, and travelling to Bristol, spent the little money he possessed in the most dissipated manner.

His next step was to enter himself on board a coasting-vessel at Bristol, but he had not been long at sea before, on a dispute with the captain, he threatened to throw him overboard, and would have carried his threats into execution if the other seamen had not prevented him. Simms asked for his wages when the ship returned to port, but the captain threatening imprisonment for his ill behaviour at sea, he decamped with only eight shillings in his possession.

* The master of a transport vessel, in the service of government, for this act, himself deserved transportation.

Fertile of contrivances, he borrowed a bridle and saddle, and having stolen a horse in a field near the city, he went once more on the highway, and taking the road to London, robbed the passengers in the Bristol coach, those in another carriage, and a single lady and gentleman, and repaired to London with the booty he had acquired.

Having put up the stolen horse at an inn in Whitechapel, and soon afterwards seeing it advertised, he was afraid to fetch it; on which he stole another horse; but as he was riding through Tyburn Turnpike, the keeper knowing the horse, brought the rider to the ground.

Hereupon Simms presented a pistol, and threatened the man with instant death if he presumed to detain him. By this daring mode of proceeding he obtained his liberty, and having made a tour round the fields, he entered London by another road.

On the following day he went to Kingston-upon-Thames, where he stole a horse, and robbed several people on his return to London; and the day afterwards robbed seven farmers of eighteen pounds. His next depredations were on Epping Forest, where he committed five robberies in one day, but soon spent what he thus gained among women of ill fame.

Thinking it unsafe to remain longer in London, he set out with a view to go to Ireland, but had rode only to Barnet when he crossed the country to Harrow-on-the-Hill, where he robbed a gentleman, named Sleep, of his money and watch, and would have taken his wig, but the other said it was of no value, and hoped, as it was cold weather, his health might not be endangered by being deprived of it.

The robber threatened Mr. Sleep's life, unless he would swear never to take any notice of the affair; but this the gentleman absolutely refused. Hereupon Simms said, that if he had not robbed him, two other persons would, and told him to say "Thomas," if he should meet any people on horseback.

Soon after this Mr. Sleep, meeting two men whom he presumed to be accomplices of the highwayman, cried out "Thomas;" but the travellers paying no regard to him, he was confirmed in his suspicions, and rode after

them, and, on his arrival at Hoddesdon-green, he found several other persons, all of them in pursuit of the highwayman.

In the mean time Simms rode forwards, and robbed the St. Alban's stage; after which he went as far as Hockliffe; but being now greatly fatigued, he fell asleep in the kitchen of an inn, whither he was pursued by some light-horsemen from St. Alban's, who took him into custody.

Being confined for that night, he was carried in the morning before a magistrate, who committed him to Bedford Gaol. By an unaccountable neglect his pistol had not been taken from him, and on his way to prison he attempted to shoot one of his guards; but the pistol missing fire, his hands were tied behind him, and when he arrived at the prison, he was fastened to the floor, with an iron collar round his neck.

Being removed to London by a writ of habeas corpus, he was lodged in Newgate, where he was visited, from motives of curiosity, by numbers of people, whom he amused with a narrative of his having been employed to shoot the king.

On this he was examined before the Duke of Newcastle, then Secretary of State; but his whole story bearing evident marks of a fiction, he was remanded to Newgate, to take his trial at the ensuing Old Bailey sessions.

Ten indictments were preferred against him, but being convicted for the robbery of Mr. Sleep, it was not thought necessary to arraign him on any other of the indictments.

After conviction he behaved with great unconcern, and, in some instances, with insolence. Having given a fellow-prisoner a violent blow, he was chained to the floor. He appeared shocked when the warrant for his execution arrived; but soon resuming his former indifference, he continued it even to the moment of execution, when he behaved in the most thoughtless manner.

He was hanged at Tyburn, on the 16th of November, 1747.

MARY HAMILTON, alias Charles Hamilton, alias George Hamilton, alias William Hamilton,

WHIPPED FOR MARRYING WITH HER OWN SEX.

POLIGAMY, or a man marrying two or more wives ; and, *vice versa*, a woman marrying two or more husbands, is a crime frequently committed ; but a woman, according to the rites of the established church, marrying a woman, is something strange and unnatural. Yet did this woman, under the outward garb of a man, marry **FOURTEEN** of her own sex !!!

At the quarter sessions held at Taunton, in Somersetshire, this woman was brought before the court ; but under what specific charge, or upon what penal statute she was indicted, we can neither trace by the mention of the circumstance, nor could we frame an indictment to meet the gross offence, because the law never contemplated a marriage among women. She was, however, tried, whether or not her case might have been cognizable, and Mary Price, the fourteenth wife, appeared in evidence (in such a case as this we must be pardoned for ambiguity) against her female husband. She swore that she was lawfully married to the prisoner, and that they bedded, and lived together as man and wife, for more than a quarter of a year ; during all which time, so well did the impostor assume the character of man, that she still actually believed she had married a fellow-creature of the right and proper sex.* At length, the prosecutrix added, she became mistrustful, and comparing certain circumstances with the married Goodies, her neighbours, she was convinced that Mary had acted the part of Charles towards her by the vilest and most deceitful practices.

The learned quorum of justices,

“ In full-blown dignity of wigs,
Mounted on blocks, thus cogitated.”

“ That the He, She, prisoner at the bar is an uncommon, notorious cheat, and We, the Court, do sentence her or

* When we find that poor Mary was a disappointed and inexperienced **VIRGIN**, we may surely credit her evidence.

him,

him, which ever he or she may be, to be imprisoned six months, and during that time to be whipped in the towns of Taunton, Glastonbury, Wells, and Shipton-Mallet, and to find security for good behaviour as long as they, the learned justices aforesaid, shall or may, in their wisdom and judgment require;" and Mary, the monopoliser of her own sex, was imprisoned and whipped accordingly, in the severity of the winter of the year 1746.

THE

SECOND REBELLION OF THE PRETENDER

TO THE BRITISH THRONE,

IN THE YEAR 1745.

" Whatever private views and passions plead,
 No cause can justify so black a deed;
 These, when the angry tempest clouds the soul,
 May darken reason, and her course controul;
 But when the prospect clears, her startled eye
 Must, from the treacherous gulph, with horror fly,
 On whose wide wave, by stormy passions tost,
 So many hapless wretches have been lost.
 Then be this truth the star by which we steer,
 Above ourselves, our COUNTRY should be dear." THOMSON.

THE same pretext used to foment a discontent to the reigning family, and to set up the standard of the House of Stuart, again burst forth at this period of time, with a much more serious aspect than the rebellion of 1715. Having already given an account of the rise and quelling of that public revolt, to which we again refer our reader, * we shall proceed to a more ample history of that now before us—the most remarkable circumstance that had happened for some centuries.

When England was now attacked by the disaffected Scotchmen, she was involved in an expensive war with her ancient enemy, France. Her armies were fighting under the Duke of Cumberland, in Germany, and her fleets sufficiently employed in watching the motions of their enemy. King George II. tho' then seated on the English throne, in

* See Vol. i, Page 116.

one part of this war, in person commanded his army, and won the celebrated battle of Dettington, where he evinced much personal courage. When the rebellion broke out in Scotland, the King was on a visit to his dominions in Hanover.

The French, being at war with Britain, thought the time favourable to wound its internal peace, by espousing the cause of the Pretender. Not that they cared about him or his pretence to the crown, but he appeared an excellent instrument for that purpose. The very same policy they adopted when Britain was at war with her rebellious colonies in America. The French assisted them, not from affection, but through them to wound the crown, under which they had been fostered for so many years.

That government was not apprised of the preparations making to assist the Pretender, is evident from the King's speech on the 2d of May, 1745, the very time they were going on, wherein he informs his parliament, "that the posture of affairs abroad had received a very considerable alteration, to the advantage of the common cause, and that thereby the influence of France was much weakened and diminished, and a way opened to restore that strength and power to our ancient and natural allies, which would tend greatly to the re-establishment and security of the balance of Europe." On the 10th, the King, having placed the government of the nation in the hands of John, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and nineteen other Privy Counsellors, he embarked at Harwich, on a visit to Hanover.

The first notice which the British public had of the proceedings of the Pretender, was from a paragraph in the General Evening Post, which said, "The Pretender's eldest son put to sea, July 14, from France, in an armed ship of sixty guns, provided with a large quantity of warlike stores, together with a frigate of thirty guns, and a number of smaller armed vessels, in order to land in Scotland, where he expected to find twenty thousand men in arms, to make good his pretensions to the crown of Great Britain. He was to be joined by five ships of the
line

line from Brest, and 4,500 Spaniards were embarking at Ferrol."

Through different channels this news was confirmed, and the nation thrown into the utmost alarm. King George II. on being apprised of it, instantly prepared to return, and arrived in London on the 31st of August, amid the acclamations of his loyal subjects, and a discharge of artillery. The Park and Tower guns had fired only a week before, on the taking of Cape Breton.

The Pretender, followed by about fifty Scotch and Irish adventurers, came *incog.* through Normandy, and on the 18th of July embarked on board a ship of war of 18 guns, which was joined off Belleisle by the Elizabeth and other ships. They intended to have sailed north about, and land in Scotland. On the 20th they came up with an English fleet of merchant vessels, under convoy of the Lion man of war, of 58 guns, commanded by Captain Brett, who immediately bore down upon the French line-of-battle ship, which he engaged within pistol shot five hours, and was constantly annoyed by the smaller ships of the enemy. The rigging of the Lion was cut to pieces; her mizen-mast, mizen-top-mast, main-yard, and fore-top-sail, were shot away; all her lower masts and top-masts shot through in many places, so that she lay muzzled in the sea, and could do nothing with her sails. Thus situated, the French ships sheered off, and the Lion could make no effort to follow them. Captain Brett had forty-five men killed; himself, all his lieutenants, the master, several midshipmen, and one hundred and seven foremast men wounded. His principal antagonist, the Elizabeth, with difficulty got back to Brest, quite disabled, and had sixty-four men killed, one hundred and thirty-nine dangerously wounded, and a number more slightly. She had on board 400,000*l.* sterling, and arms and ammunition for several thousand men.

The French court, the expedition thus miscarrying, pretended ignorance of the circumstance.

Meanwhile, the Camerons, the Macdonalds, and many other clans, were in arms, in expectation of their friends from France. They came down into the low-lands in parties

parties, and carried off, by force, many men to fill their ranks, and committed various disorders.

The Pretender having embarked in another ship, again sailed from France, and eluded the English cruisers, so as to give him an opportunity of landing, which he effected with his followers, on the Isle of Sky, opposite to Lochabar, in the county of Inverness, about the end of the month of July, and took up his residence at the house of a Papist priest, with whom he remained three weeks, while his emissaries were raising men for his service. At length at the head of about two thousand he began his march under a standard, on which was the motto "TANDEM TRIUMPHANS,"—" *At length triumphant.*"

The rebels now marched towards Fort William, where the Pretender published a manifesto, which his father had signed at Rome; containing abundant promises to such as would adhere to his cause; two of which were, a dissolution of the union between the two kingdoms, and a payment of the national debt.

This circumstance induced many of the ignorant country people to flock to his standard, till at length his undisciplined rabble began to assume the appearance of an army, which struck terror to the well-affected wherever it came.

These transactions, however, had not passed so secretly, but that the governor of Fort William informed the Lord Justice Clerk of Edinburgh of all he could learn of the affair; on which the latter dispatched an express to the north, ordering the assistance of all officers, civil and military: and this express arrived about the time the Pretender erected his standard.

The Governor of Fort William having received these orders, dispatched two companies of St. Clair's and Murray's regiments of foot, to oppose the rebels. They were attacked by a far superior number of Highlanders, which they contended against, until they fired away all their ammunition; after which they were attacked in front, flank, and rear, and near half their number killed, before they surrendered. Captain Scott, their brave commander, was wounded; but the rebels gave him and his remaining officers their parole of honour, the private soldiers were sent to prison.

In the interim the Lord Justice Clerk ordered Sir John Cope, commander in chief of the forces in the south of Scotland, to march against the rebels ; but in making the circuit of the immense mountains of Argyleshire, the two armies failed to meet ; on which Sir John went to Inverness, to refresh his troops after the fatigue of the march.

The armies having thus casually missed each other, the rebels proceeded to Perth, and having taken possession of that place, the Pretender issued his orders for all persons who were in possession of public money, to pay it into the hands of his secretary, whose receipts should be a full acquittal for the same.

The rebel numbers had now greatly increased, and in September the Pretender issued a proclamation. The provost and magistrates left the city, and others were immediately appointed in their room. Here the rebels were joined by the Duke of Perth, Lord George Murray, Lord Nairn, the Hon. William Murray, Messrs. Oliphant, father and son, of Gask, George Kelly, Esq. who, with the late bishop of Rochester, was committed to the Tower, and thence escaped, and several other Scotch gentlemen of influence, with their followers, making a formidable army.

The official papers distributed began thus : “ Charles “ Prince of Wales, and Regent of Scotland, England, “ France, and Ireland, and of the Dominions thereto belonging.”

In the mean time general Cope sent from Inverness an express to Aberdeen, for the transport vessels in that harbour to be ready to receive his troops ; and embarking on the 18th of September, he disembarked them at Dunbar.

During these transactions General Guest, who commanded the castle of Edinburgh, gave the magistrates of that city several pieces of cannon for the defence of the place ; and Colonel James Gardiner repaired from Stirling to Edinburgh, with two regiments of dragoons ; but learning that General Cope had landed at Dunbar, which is twenty-seven miles east of Edinburgh, he proceeded to effect a junction with that general.

On the 7th another party of rebels took possession of the

the town of Dundee, proclaimed the Pretender, searched for arms, and levied money on the inhabitants, giving receipts for the same. They seized a ship, and steered her to Perth, supposing there was gunpowder on board. On the 11th they left Perth, and marched that day to Dumblaine, twenty miles; but the next day only two—to Down. They crossed the Forth at the fords of Frews, on the 13th, General Blakeney having destroyed the bridge, and directed their march towards Glasgow; but the next day they turned to the eastward, and marched by Falkirk to Cullington, four miles from Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH TAKEN BY SURPRISE.

The following day the Pretender proceeded through the royal park, and took possession of Holyrood-House. The money in the bank of Edinburgh, and the records in the public offices, were now removed to the castle for security, and the gates of the city were kept fast during the whole day; but five hundred of the rebels having concealed themselves in the suburbs, took an opportunity, at four o'clock the next morning, to follow a coach which was going in, and seizing the gate called the Netherbow, they maintained their ground while the body reached the centre of the city, and formed themselves in the Parliament Close.

Thus possessed of the capital, they seized two thousand stand of arms, and, on the following day, marched to oppose the Royal army, under the command of General Cope; and the two armies being within sight of each other, near Preston Pans, on the evening of the 20th, Colonel Gardiner earnestly recommended it to the general to attack them during the night; but deaf to this advice, he kept the men under arms till morning, though they were already greatly harassed.

At five in the morning the rebels made a furious attack on the royal army, and threw them into unspeakable confusion, by two regiments of dragoons falling back on the foot. Colonel Gardiner, with 500 foot, behaved with uncommon valour, and covered the retreat of those who fled;

but the colonel receiving a mortal wound, the rebels made prisoners of the rest of the King's troops.

The following account of this disaster was issued from Whitehall, London :

" By an express arrived this morning, we are informed that Sir John Cope, with the troops under his command, were attacked by the rebels on the 21st instant, at day-break, at Preston, near Seaton, seven miles from Edinburgh ; that the King's troops were defeated, and that Sir John Cope, with about four hundred and fifty dragoons, had retired to Lauder ; Brigadier Fawkes and Colonel Lascelles, had got to Lauder. The Earls of Loudon and Hume were at Dundee with Sir John Cope."

The loss sustained by the King's troops was,

Killed - - - - 300

Wounded - - - - 450

Taken prisoners - 520

Total - 1270

The rebels did not lose more than fifty men.

Flushed with this partial victory, the rebels returned in high spirits to Edinburgh. They now sent foraging parties through the country, with orders to seize all the horses and waggons they could find : and, in the interim, a party of the insurgents attempted to throw up an intrenchment on the castle-hill. Hereupon the governor, necessitated to oppose the assailants, yet anxious for the safety of the inhabitants, sent a messenger in the night, to intimate to those who lived near the castle-hill, that they would do well to remove out of danger.

As soon as it was day-light, the battery of the rebels was destroyed by a discharge of the great cannon from the half-moon, and thirty of them killed, with three of the inhabitants, who had rashly ventured near the spot.

The governor being greatly deficient in provisions, a gentleman ordered above 50 fine bullocks to be driven into the city on a pretence that they were for the use of the rebels ; and the person who drove them leaving them on the castle-hill, the governor and five hundred men sallied forth and drove them in at the gate, while the rebels played their artillery with unremitting fury.

While

While the rebels continued in Edinburgh, which was about seven weeks, some noblemen and their adherents joined them ; so that their army amounted to almost ten thousand men. They now levied large contributions, not only in Edinburgh, but through the adjacent country ; and those who furnished them received receipts, signed, " CHARLES, Prince Regent."

The officers taken at the battle of Preston, were admitted to their parole, but the privates were ill treated. Their allowance was only three-halfpence each per day, and their prison filthy, and destitute of accommodations. This was practised in order to cause them to enlist under the banner of the Pretender, and they were tampered with, promised the best treatment, new clothing, and five guineas per man, on their "*taking St. James's Palace.*" One hundred and twenty, oppressed by hunger, and tempted by allurements, were not able to withstand either the calls or the temptation, and turned rebels and papists : thus forfeiting their honour and their lives. It is curious to remark, that not a man of these apostate traitors survived their newly adopted cause, for such as were not killed in the various engagements which took place before the rebellion could be quelled, fell into the hands of their injured countrymen, who hanged them all on the gallows ; and thus let every traitor perish !

About this time some ships from France arrived in the Forth, laden with ammunition ; and a person who attended the Pretender was dignified with the title of ambassador from his most Christian Majesty.

General Wade had now the command of some forces which had reached Yorkshire ; and some Dutch troops being sent to augment his forces, he marched to Newcastle, with a view to deter the rebels from entering the southern part of the kingdom.

That celebrated prelate, the late Dr. Herring, archbishop of York, distinguished himself gloriously on this interesting occasion. Joining with the high-sheriff to assemble the freeholders, the archbishop preached an animated sermon to them ; and then the several parties agreed to assist each other in support of their civil and religious rights. Many people in Yorkshire were prevented from
engaging

engaging in the rebellion by this spirited and well-timed conduct.

The Lord President Forbes, and the Earl of Loudon, acted in a manner equally zealous in Scotland. Having collected a number of the loyal Highlanders into a body, many others who would have joined the rebels were thereby deterred; and this proceeding proved of the most essential service towards the suppression of the rebellion.

The rebels quitted Edinburgh in the beginning of November, marched to Dalkeith where they encamped; and a report was circulated that they proposed to make an attack on Berwick; but this was only a contrivance to conceal their real designs.

In the mean time more than a thousand of the rebels deserted, in consequence of General Wade's publishing a pardon to such as would return to their duty as good subjects, within a limited time. Still, however, they had above eight thousand men able to bear arms; yet General Wade would have marched to attack them, but that his soldiers were ill of the flux, owing to the severity of the season, and the fatigues they had undergone.

THE CITY OF CARLISLE BESIEGED AND TAKEN.

Emboldened by success, and their force increased, the rebels now determined to penetrate into England. On Saturday, the 9th of October, about three o'clock in the afternoon, the inhabitants of that ancient city were thrown into the greatest alarm, at seeing a body of them on Stanwix-bank, within a quarter of a mile of them; and it being market-day there, they mixed with the country people returning home, so that it was not possible for the garrison to fire upon them for some time, without risque of injuring their neighbours along with their enemies; but in less than half an hour the country people dispersed themselves, and then the garrison of the castle fired a ten-gun battery upon them, which, it is believed, killed several; then, night coming on, they retreated to a greater distance from the city and the garrison stood all the night under arms. At two in the morning a thick fog came on, which

which remained till twelve that day, when it cleared up for about an hour, and then the garrison discovered the rebels approaching to attack the city in three several parties, viz. one at Stanwix-bank, commanded by the Duke of Perth; another at Shading-gate-lane, commanded by the Marquis of Tullibardine, who also had the artillery; and the third in Blackwell-fields, where the Pretender commanded the rest of their body facing the English-gate. Upon discovering these three parties approaching so near to the city, the garrison fired upon them, viz. the four-gun battery upon the Marquis of Tullibardine, who was heard to say, "Gentlemen, we have not metal for them, retreat;" which they immediately did, and disappeared. The turret guns and the citadel guns were fired upon the Pretender's division, where the white flag was displayed, which was seen to fall; about the same time the ten gun battery was fired upon the Duke of Perth's division, who also retired. Then the thick fog struck in again, and all the inhabitants of the city expected nothing but that a general assault would be made by the rebels, against which the walls were well lined with men; and Sir John Pennington, Dr. Waugh, Chancellor Humphry Senhouse, Joseph Daire Dalston, of Acron-bank, esquires, with several other gentlemen of note, were all night under arms, to encourage and assist them. The militia was also drawn up at the foot of Castle-street, to be ready in case of a forcible attack, to relieve and reinforce the men upon the walls. On Monday morning, the fog still continuing thick, the garrison could not observe the situation of the rebels, but heard their pipers playing not far from the English-gate. About ten o'clock a man was let down from the city walls, to reconnoitre the enemy; and he found they were retiring towards Warwick-bridge. In the afternoon other spies were likewise detached to observe their motions, and discovered a great number remaining about Warwick-bridge; but the Pretender, with his guard and attendants, were advanced to Brompton, where they lodged themselves that night; and on Tuesday they lay idle from all action, except feats of rapine and plunder; for they spent the day in hunting and destroying the sheep of Lord Carlisle's tenants, and bearing

bearing off the country people's geese, and other poultry. They also seized upon all the horses they could lay hands on, without any question relating to value or property; notwithstanding they declared the design of their expedition was to redress grievances, and correct abuses. Tuesday night the rebels slept quietly. On Wednesday morning about ten o'clock they displayed the white flag at Warwick-bridge-end, to which they were about three hours in repairing. About one o'clock the young Pretender, attended by Lord George Murray, the Duke of Perth, and several others, besides those called his guard, came to them; upon which they formed themselves, and began to march again to Carlisle, in the following order, first, two (named Hussars) in Highland dresses, and high rough red caps, like pioneers: next, about half a dozen of the chief leaders, followed by a kettle-drum; then the Pretender's son, at the head of about 110 horse, called his guards, two and two a-breast; after these a confused multitude of all sorts of mean people to the number, as was supposed, of about six thousand. In this order they advanced to the height of Warwick-moor; where they halted about half an hour, and took an attentive view of the city; from thence the foot took the lead, and so marched to Carlisle about three in the afternoon, when they began a fresh assault, and the city renewed their fire. On Thursday it was discovered that the rebels had thrown up a trench, which intimidated the town, and in a consultation it was resolved to capitulate, a deputation was sent to the Pretender, at Brampton, and the town and castle were delivered up on Friday morning.

During this progress and success of the rebels, the English government were not waiting the event of a battle, without making every effort to entirely quell the rebellion. The city of London addressed the king, in terms of great loyalty, and offered contributions for that purpose. The example of the metropolis was followed by almost every corporate body in the kingdom. The flower of the English army, as we have already observed, was in Germany; had they, instead of the new levies then engaged, fought at Preston, the issue of that battle would most likely have terminated the rebellion.

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The King now thought fit to send for his son the Duke of Cumberland, to command against the rebels; and with him eight battalions and nine squadrons returned from fighting foreign foes, to quell a civil war at home. On his arrival he immediately took the command, and soon followed his veteran troops towards the north. He arrived in Staffordshire, at the time when the rebels had penetrated as far as the town of Derby.

Both houses of parliament now assembled, and a bill was passed for suspending the habeas corpus act for six months: by which the King was, for that period, empowered to seize all suspected persons, and commit them to prison, without specifying the reason of such commitment.*

The effects of this act were the apprehension and commitment of many suspected persons in both kingdoms: but it did not appear to stop the progress of the rebellion.

The duke now expected a junction of the forces under General Wade, who had marched from Newcastle to Darlington, and taking a westward course, had stationed his troops near Wetherby. The rebels having advice of this motion, it was proposed by some of them to march into North Wales; but others opposed this on the presumption that they should then be surrounded by the royal army, and compelled to surrender themselves prisoners at discretion, as they would have no opportunity of retreating into Scotland.

They therefore determined to push their cause to the very utmost; and for this purpose advanced by more rapid marches to the southward, than the king's troops could have endured, until they actually penetrated into the very heart and centre of England.

Liverpool was not behind London in spirit and loyalty. The inhabitants contributed largely in assisting the royal army at this inclement season, with warm clothing, and

* The right of the writ of habeas corpus is one of the most valuable privileges of an Englishman. By virtue of it the body cannot be detained without shewing cause to the Court of King's Bench. It guards us from oppressions, and is productive of many advantages in the security of our rights and liberties. Hence its suspension is not trusted to the King himself, except upon the most urgent necessity, such as an invasion, rebellion, or insurrection.

raised several companies of armed men, which were called the Royal Liverpool Blues. Some of the advanced parties of rebels having appeared in sight of the town, every preparation was made to resist them. Finding at length that the Pretender bent his march by another route for Manchester, the Liverpool Blues marched in order to destroy the bridges, and thereby impede their progress. This service they effected, breaking them down at Warrington, over the river Mersey, as far as Stockport. They seized two of the rebels, whom they handcuffed and sent to Chester Gaol.

Notwithstanding these impediments, the rebels crossed the Mersey at different fords, through which the Pretender waded breast high in water. Their numbers could not be accurately ascertained, their march being straggling and unequal, but about 9000 appeared the aggregate. Their train of artillery consisted of sixteen field-pieces of three and four-pound shot, two carriages of gunpowder, a number of covered waggons, and about 100 horses laden with ammunition. Their vanguard consisted of about 200 cavalry, badly mounted, the horses appearing poor and jaded.

On entering the town of Macclesfield, they ordered the usual bellman to go round and give notice, that billets must forthwith be ready for 5,000 men, their first division, on pain of military execution. The Pretender himself constantly marched on foot, at the head of two regiments, one of which was appropriated as his body-guard. His dress was a light plaid, belted about with a sash of blue silk; he wore a grey wig, with a blue bonnet and a white rose in it. He appeared very dejected at this time. His followers were ordinary, except the two regiments mentioned, which appeared to have been picked out of the whole, to form them. The arms of the others were very indifferent. Some had guns, others only pistols, the remainder broad swords and targets. They committed various depredations in their progress, seizing all the horses, and plundering the houses and the farm-yards.

In this manner they proceeded to Derby. At Manchester, where they raised a regiment, it was apprehended, and not without reason, that they might have reached
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the metropolis, the duke not being fully prepared ; or by their retrograde motions might have missed them, as happened in the outset with Sir John Cope in the mountains of Argyleshire. Though we cannot, consistently with the plan of our work, occupy many more pages, yet, on a subject like this, so highly important at the time it occurred, and new to a great portion of our readers, a description of the behaviour of this rebellious faction in Manchester and Derby, with the panic which seized them, and their flight back again to Scotland, cannot be unacceptable.

On the 28th of November, an advanced party of rebels entered Manchester, immediately beat up for volunteers, and enlisted several papists and nonjurors, to whom they *promised* five guineas each, but gave them little more than white cockades, and what they called enlisting money. They then ordered quarters to be prepared for 10,000 men. Upon the arrival of the main body, a detachment examined the best houses, fixed upon one for the Pretender, and others for the principal officers. They ordered the bellman to go round the town, and give notice to all persons belonging to the excise, innkeepers, &c. forthwith to appear, and bring their acquittances and rolls, and all the ready cash they had in their hands, belonging to government, on pain of military execution. The Pretender was then proclaimed King of England, and the terrified inhabitants were ordered to illuminate their houses.

In order to deceive the Duke of Cumberland, whose army was augmenting in Staffordshire, sometimes they gave out that their route was for Chester ; then to Knutsford, Middlewich, and Nantwich ; at other times they pretended they were going into Wales. The duke, however, took those measures which could not fail checking their progress, should they push for London, which now was greatly apprehended ; and, in short, the whole nation was in the utmost consternation. He concentrated the troops near Northampton, a position which the rebels could not pass by the direct road, without risking a battle. It was still apprehended that by forced marches, and by advancing with great rapidity, they meant to avoid the

duke by a circuitous route through Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Fortunately they trifled away much time in raising the regiments, a proposition of a Mr. Townley, who was appointed the colonel, and afterwards taken prisoner at Carlisle, for which, among many others, he was hanged, as we shall hereafter describe.

These daring traitors had despoiled the country as far as Derby, before they were aware of the danger they incurred to themselves. Here they found that the duke was waiting their further progress, advantageously posted, and in force, which they appeared unwilling to engage with. They had actually left Derby, and taken the road to London, when, it was evident, a panic overcame them; for they had barely measured a mile, when they halted; held a consultation, wheeled round, and retraced their steps to Derby. On their second visit to this already oppressed town, they levied contributions to a large amount, and threatened destruction to it, unless instantly complied with. They took what was hastily brought them, meanly plundered whatever fell in their way, and departed sullen and dejected.

From this moment they sought to regain Scotland, and by forced marches the duke pursued them. However oppressive their conduct in advancing, they committed murder and wanton mischief, and seized whatever they could carry off in their retreat.

The rebels in arms in Scotland had, before this, been joined by some French troops, the commander of which declared, that he invaded the British dominions in the name of, and for his master Louis XV.

It is high time in our summary of this very remarkable epoch of the British history, which might fill an interesting volume, to take a view of the proceedings of the gallant Duke of Cumberland. On the 6th he was at Coventry with the horse, and the infantry encamped upon Meriden Common, where they received the warm clothing subscribed for in London, Liverpool, and other towns. On the 9th he pushed on at the head of the cavalry, and a thousand fresh volunteers, mounted in pursuit of the rebels, with a view to skirmish with them until the foot came up, but they fled at their utmost speed, through
Ashbourn,

Ashbourn, Leek, Macclesfield, Manchester, Leigh, Wigan, and Preston.

In order to enable the duke to continue his pursuit, the gentlemen of Staffordshire provided horses to carry the foot soldiers. The flourishing town of Birmingham followed this laudable example, and Sir Lister Holt, of Aston Hall, near thereto, furnished 250, sending even his coach-horses on this service; for which he received the public and private thanks of the English commander in chief.

Field-marshal Wade, with his detachment of the British army, was at this time at Wakefield. It had been resolved, in a council of war held on the 8th, at Ferrybridge, to march with all expedition into Lancashire, to cut off the retreat of the rebels to Scotland: but finding they had proceeded too far in their flight to effect this, he dispatched General Oglethorpe with the cavalry, to hang upon, and harass their rear.

The French force which landed in favour of the rebels, brought with them a train of artillery of such heavy metal, as to require about a dozen of their horses to draw an eighteen-pounder. With this train they advanced from Montrose to Perth, by Brechin. They had every difficulty to encounter; the season rendered the roads extremely bad, and the country people annoyed them in all directions.

At Preston, the rebels wearied with incessant marches for the last three or four days, were compelled to halt a day. This being made known to the Duke of Cumberland, he redoubled his efforts to overtake them with his cavalry. He had been recently joined by General Oglethorpe, whose squadrons had moved from Doncaster without a halt; and in three days he gained a hundred miles over snow and ice. By pushing the horses to the extremity, the duke entered Preston only four hours after the rear of the rebels had left it; but in turn he was now compelled to halt and refresh.

On the 14th General Oglethorpe was at Garstang, and took his post at Elhilmoor, about three miles from Lancaster. The Liverpool companies arrived at Preston on the 16th, and that town sent a deputation of four of the principal inhabitants to his royal highness, with offers
to

to supply his troops with whatever they might stand in need of.

At Lancaster the rebels were thrown into the utmost dread on the approach of General Oglethorpe, with the horse, who actually entered the town at one end, as they retreated out of the other. While the horses were feeding in the street, and the soldiers refreshing and preparing for the attack on overtaking the fugitives, the general was called back by an express announcing the invasion of the French. This intelligence proving to have had no foundation, the horse were again ordered to push on, but the rebels had got by that time so much the start, as not to be overtaken.

At Kendal the country rose upon the retreating rebels; they took three of their men, two women, and several horses; in doing which three of the people were killed. The Pretender halted at Shap that night, and fearing to be treated in like manner at Penryth, he endeavoured to avoid that town, in which attempt he was met by an incredible number of incensed inhabitants on Lazenby Moor, on which they turned off to Temple Sowerby, but were hunted and galled the whole day, and at length driven into Orton. Here they could wait only to feed their horses in the street, and then set forward, having pressed a guide, but were pursued by the loyal people of Appleby and Brough, who took the Duke of Perth's mistress and another gentlewoman, whose carriage had broke down. As a retaliation for this interruption, the rebels committed great spoliations as they passed, plundering houses and shops, destroying goods, and stripping men of their shoes, stockings, breeches—nay, often stripping them altogether.

After several forced marches, the Duke of Cumberland at length came up with the rebels at Lowther Hall, which they had taken possession of, but abandoned it on his approach, and threw themselves into the village of Clifton, three miles from Penryth. The dragoons immediately dismounted, and made so vigorous an attack, that in about an hour's time the rebels were driven back, though in a strong and defensible post. It became dark before the assault was over, and thus it was rendered impossible
to

to calculate their loss, or to pursue them. Of the King's forces, forty were killed and wounded; and among the latter were Colonel Honeywood, Captain East, and the Cornets Owen and Hamilton. These officers declared that when fallen, the rebels struck at them with their broadswords crying, "No quarter, kill them." They then carried off their wounded and fled to Carlisle, which city they held possession of since its disgraceful capitulation; and which the English made immediate preparation to invest.

A fresh detachment from Marshal Wade having joined the duke, with a train of battering cannon from Whitehaven, he began his line of march for Carlisle, and gave orders for raising the *posse comitatus*, (the whole body of the people.) Upon his near approach, he found the main body of the rebels had abandoned the city for Scotland, leaving behind a garrison. He however invested it in all quarters, and the besieged fired their cannon with great fury, but little execution.

During these operations, the Seahorse frigate captured a large French ship, a part of a small fleet, full of troops and warlike stores, destined for Scotland, and brought her into Dover. On board were twenty-two officers, all of whom were Scotch and Irish, provided with commissions from the King of France, and a proportional number of soldiers.

To return to Carlisle: the Duke of Cumberland threw up batteries to bombard it, while the rebels burnt part of the suburbs, and hanged three of the inhabitants. The batteries, which took up several days in constructing, being complete, were opened upon the city, but towards evening, the ammunition being expended, they ceased, waiting for a supply, which, however, fortunately arrived next day, and the cannonade was resumed, which caused the rebels to hoist the white flag, upon which it again ceased. In about two hours a flag of truce advanced with a rebel officer, who brought a letter signed 'John Hamilton,' Governor of Carlisle. This letter proposed hostages to be given and exchanged, in order to prepare for a capitulation. To this the Duke of Cumberland returned for answer, "That he would make no exchange of hostages with

with rebels." Another flag arrived from the rebel governor, desiring to know what terms the duke would grant him and his garrison. To this it was answered, that the utmost terms he would grant, were, "not to put them to the sword, but to reserve them for his Majesty's pleasure:" whereupon he surrendered the city, praying the duke to intercede for his Majesty's royal clemency, and that the officers' clothes and baggage might be safe; and at three in the afternoon of the 30th of December, the King's troops once more took possession of the devoted city of Carlisle.

The rebel garrison consisted of the remains of the regiment they raised at Manchester, viz. Townley, their colonel, five captains, six lieutenants, seven ensigns, and an adjutant, who had been a barber, with ninety-three non-commissioned officers, drummers, and private men, chiefly Roman Catholics. The other part of the garrison of Scotch, were the governor, six captains, seven lieutenants, three ensigns, and one surgeon; and 256 non-commissioned officers and private men. Last, though not least rebellious, was found James Cappock, the Pretender's bishop of the diocese. The French part of this contemptible garrison, as they styled themselves, was Sir Francis Geogean, of Thoulouse, in France, captain in Count Lally's regiment, Colonel Strictland, and Sir John Arbuthnot, captains in the rebel Lord George Drummond's regiment; but the real Frenchmen were, one sergeant and four private soldiers.

These victories, however, by no means put an end to this very formidable rebellion. We must therefore, long as our account already is, follow the contending parties to Scotland, and when our readers recollect, that for this crime, very considerable numbers, as we shall hereafter shew, forfeited their lives, we cannot persuade ourselves, that herein we make even a digression from our avowed object.

The main body of the rebels, we have observed, left Carlisle, and in haste moved forward to Scotland. Having no impediment to encounter, we pass over their destructive march, until we find the Pretender at Glasgow,

gow,* the second city of that part of great Britain. Here they levied a contribution for horses, and promised payment for what they consumed, then ordered the land-tax to be paid : but upon departure said, their expenses should be discharged out of the pretended forfeited rents of Kilsyth. They then marched for Stirling, in possession of the English, commanded by the gallant General Blakeney. The gates could not be defended ; they therefore marched in, and summoned the garrison to surrender ; but the veteran commander answered, that “ he would perish in its ruins, rather than make terms with rebels.” In the river of the town were two English men of war, and the rebels, in order to prevent their going further up, erected a battery, which the ships soon destroyed, and caused them to retreat a mile, where they erected another, which did little execution. They now prepared for a vigorous attack upon the castle, got some heavy pieces of ordnance across the Forth, erected a battery against it, and called in all their forces. General Blakeney fired upon them, and repeatedly drove them from their works.

General Hawley, at the head of such troops as he could form in order of battle, marched to attempt to raise the siege, but the rebels made a desperate attack, at the commencement of which, his artillery horses, terrified, broke their traces, and ran away. Some of the dragoons seeing this, also gave way, and in short, the rebels had the advantage.

At the beginning of the battle, a violent storm of wind and rain arose, which blew and beat in the faces of the English. General Hawley retreated to Linlithgow. His powder was found spoiled by the excessive rains of that and the preceding day, not a musket in five went off, and the drivers of his waggons, running off with the impressed horses, he was compelled to burn his tents and other stores, and to abandon nearly the whole of his artillery.

* On his arrival at Glasgow, the Pretender sent for the Provost (the principal officer of the city) and demanded the names of all those who had subscribed for raising troops against him, threatening to hang him on his refusal. To this the Provost replied, “ I will not give up the name of any one person in the city, but I, myself, subscribed more than any other. I thought it my duty, and I am not afraid to die in such a cause.”

Edinburgh being again in the possession of the English, and fears entertained that the rebels meant to abandon the siege of Stirling, and proceed thither, General Hawley was ordered to post himself between those places. The rebels abandoning Stirling, laid siege to Fort William, but after a long attack, in which they fired hot bars, in hopes of setting it on fire, they also gave up that design.

Various were the skirmishes in different parts of Scotland, and frequently to the advantage of the rebels, which we shall pass over, in order to bring our history to a close, by presenting the two armies in order of battle, at Culloden; the result of which crushed this rebellion. It is certain, that the rebels entertained the most sanguine hopes of success, from their broadswords, which had already borne them too long in their career: but when opposed to the English bayonet of veteran troops, they were as a feather before the wind, nor can the horse make any impression on that formidable weapon, in the hands of determined infantry. This may be called a pitched battle, for the contending armies having taken the field, determined to abide the issue of the day. They were respectively commanded by the Duke and the Pretender, in their proper persons: and the following, taken from the London Gazette, is the conqueror's account of the battle:

“On Tuesday the 15th the rebels burnt Fort Augustus, which convinced us of their resolution to stand an engagement with the King's troops. We gave our men a day's halt at Nairn, and on the 16th marched from thence, between four and five, in four columns. The three lines of foot (reckoning the reserve for one) were broken into three from the right, which made the three columns equal, and each of five battalions. The artillery and baggage followed the first column upon the right, and the cavalry made the fourth column on the left.

“After we had marched about eight miles, our advanced guard, composed of about 40 of Kingston's, and the Highlanders, led by the quarter-master-general, perceived the rebels at some distance making a motion towards us on the left, upon which we immediately formed; but finding the rebels were still a good way from us, and that the whole

whole body did not come forward, we put ourselves again upon our march in our former posture, and continued it to within a mile of them, where we again formed in the same order as before. After reconnoitering their situation, we found them posted behind some old walls and huts, in a line with Culloden House. As we thought our right entirely secure, Gen. Hawley and Gen. Bland went to the left with two regiments of dragoons, to endeavour to fall upon the right flank of the rebels, and Kingston's horse was ordered to the reserve. The ten pieces of cannon were disposed, two in each of the intervals of the first line, and all our Highlanders (except about 140, which were upon the left with Gen. Hawley, and who behaved extremely well) were left to guard the baggage.

“ When we were advanced within 500 yards of the rebels, we found the morass upon our right was ended, which left our right flank quite uncovered to them; his Royal Highness thereupon immediately ordered Kingston's horse from the reserve, and a little squadron of about 60 of Cobham's which had been patrolling, to cover our flank; and Pulteney's regiment was ordered from the reserve to the right of the Royals.

“ We spent above half an hour after that, trying which should gain the flank of the other; and his Royal Highness having sent Lord Bury forward within a hundred yards of the rebels, to reconnoitre somewhat that appeared like a battery to us, they thereupon began firing their cannon, which was extremely ill-served and ill-pointed: our's immediately answered them, which began their confusion. They then came running on in their wild manner: and upon the right where his Royal Highness had placed himself, imagining the greater push would be there, they came down three several times within a hundred yards of our men, firing their pistols and brandishing their swords: but the Royals and Pulteney's hardly took their firelocks from their shoulders, so that after those faint attempts they made off, and the little squadrons on our right were sent to pursue them. Gen. Hawley had, by the help of our Highlanders, beat down two little stone walls, and came in upon the right flank of their second line.

“ As their whole first line came down to attack at once,
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their right somewhat out-flanked Barrel's regiment, which was our left, and the greatest part of the little loss we sustained, was there; but Bligh's and Sempil's giving a fire upon those who had out-flanked Barrel's soon repulsed them, and Barrel's regiment and the left of Monro's fairly beat them with their bayonets. There was scarce a soldier or officer of Barrel's, and of that part of Monro's which engaged, who did not kill one or two men each with their bayonets and spontoons. *

"The cavalry, which had charged from the right and left, met in the centre, except two squadrons of dragoons, which we missed, and they were gone in pursuit of the runaways: Lord Ancram was order to pursue with the horse as far as he could; and did it with so good effect that a very considerable number was killed in the pursuit.

"As we were in our march to Inverness, and were nearly arrived there, Major Gen. Bland sent the annexed papers, which he received from the French officers and soldiers, surrendering themselves prisoners to his Royal Highness. Major Gen. Bland had also made great slaughter, and took about 50 French officers and soldiers prisoners in his pursuit.

"By the best calculation that can be made, it is thought the rebels lost 2000 men upon the field of battle, and in the pursuit. We have here 222 French, and 326 rebel prisoners. Lieut. Col. Howard killed an officer, who appeared to be Lord Strathallan, by the seal, and different commissions from the Pretender, found in his pocket.

"It is said Lord Perth, Lord Nairn, Lochiel, Keppock, and Appin Stuart, are also killed. All their artillery and ammunition, were taken, as well as the Pretender's and all their baggage. There were also twelve colours taken.

"All the generals, officers, and soldiers, did their utmost duty in his Majesty's service, and shewed the greatest zeal and bravery on this occasion.

"The Pretender's son, it is said, lay at Lord Lovat's house at Aird, the night after the action. Brig. Mordaunt is detached with 900 volunteers this morning into the

* The officers' half-pikes.

Fraziers' country, to attack all the rebels he may find there. Lord Sutherland's and Lady Reay's people continue to exert themselves, and have taken upwards of 100 rebels, who are sent for; and there is great reason to believe Lord Cromartie and his son are also taken. The Monroes have killed 50 of the rebels in their flight. As it is not known where the greatest bodies of them are, or which way they have taken in their flight, his Royal Highness has not yet determined which way to march. On the 17th, as his Royal Highness was at dinner, three officers, and about sixteen of Fitz-James's regiment, who were mounted, came and surrendered themselves prisoners.

"The killed, wounded, and missing, of the King's troops, amount to above 300.

"The French officers will be all sent to Carlisle, till his Majesty's pleasure shall be known.

"The rebels, by their own accounts, make their loss greater by 2000 men than we have stated it. Four of their principal ladies are in custody, viz. Lady Ogilvie, Lady Kinloch, Lady Gordon, and the Laird of M'Intosh's wife. Major Grant, the Governor of Inverness, is retaken, and the Generals, Hawley, Lord Albemarle, Huske, and Bland, have orders to inquire into the reasons for his surrendering of Fort George.

"Lord Cromartie, Lord M'Leod his son, with other prisoners, are just brought in from Sutherland, by the Hound sloop, which his Royal Highness had sent for them, and they are just now landing."

To wield the broadsword, and assume the plad,
Avails but little where the cause is bad.

*THE EARL OF KILMARNOCK,
THE EARL OF CROMARTIE,
THE LORD BALMERINO,*

THREE OF THE PRINCIPAL REBEL CHIEFS.

“ These men were once the glory of their age,
“ Disinterested, just, with ev’ry virtue
“ Of civil life adorn’d—in arms excelling.
“ Their only blot was this; that much provok’d
“ They rais’d their vengeful arms against their country;
“ And lo! the righteous gods have now chastis’d them.”

THOMSON.

THESE noblemen possessed great influence, and were much respected, previous to the unhappy rebellion in 1745. Having already given a correct, though abridged account, of the transactions in which they took conspicuous parts, we proceed, without farther comment, to their trials, defence, speeches, and execution.

On Monday, the 28th of July, 1746, about eight o’clock in the morning, the three rebel lords, prisoners in the Tower, were carried from thence in three coaches, the Earl of Kilmarnock, with Governor Williamson, and another gentleman, captain of the guard, in the first, the Earl of Cromartie, attended by Captain Marshall, in the second, and Lord Balmerino, attended by Mr. Fowler, gentleman gaoler, who had the axe covered by him, in the third, under a strong guard of foot-soldiers to Westminster Hall, where the Lord High Steward and the peers having taken their seats, proclamation was made for the Lieutenant of the Tower of London to return the precept to him directed, with the bodies of the prisoners: which done, the Gentleman Gaoler of the Tower brought his prisoners to the bar; and the proclamation was made for the King’s evidence to come forth, the King’s counsel, by his Grace’s direction, opened the indictment, then his Grace moved the house that he might advance forwards for the better hearing of the evidence, (which being done, William Earl of Kilmarnock was brought to the bar) and his bill



EARL OF KILMARNOCK.

bill of indictment for high treason read, to which his lordship pleaded Guilty, and desired to be recommended to his Majesty for mercy. Then George Earl of Cromartie was brought to the bar, &c. who also pleaded Guilty and prayed for mercy. After which Arthur Lord Balmerino was brought to the bar, &c. who pleaded Not Guilty, alleging that he was not at Carlisle at the time specified in the indictment, whereupon six witnesses for the crown were called in and examined, whose evidence was distinctly repeated by the reading clerk, proving that his Lordship entered Carlisle (though not the same day) sword in hand, at the head of a regiment called by his name, Elphinston's horse. To this he made an exception, which was overruled. The Lord High Steward then asked him if he had any witness or any thing further to offer in his defence. To which he replied, he was sorry he had given their lordships so much trouble, and had nothing more to say. Hereupon their lordships retired out of Westminster Hall to the House of Peers, where the opinion of the judges was asked, touching the overt act, which they declaring to be not material, as other facts were proved beyond contradiction, their lordships returned, and his Grace putting the question to the youngest baron, "Whether Arthur Lord Balmerino was guilty or not guilty, &c." he clapt his right hand to his left breast, and said, "Guilty, upon my honour, my Lord," as did all the rest of the peers. And the prisoners being again called to the bar, the Lord High Steward declared their resolutions: and they were ordered to be brought up on the 30th, at 11 o'clock in the morning to receive sentence.

Written notice was given them to bring what they might have to offer in arrest of judgment.—There were 136 peers present.

On the 30th the Lord High Steward went to Westminster Hall attended as before: and the prisoners being brought again before their peers, the Earl of Kilmarnock made a very elegant and pathetic speech, which was much admired, to move their lordships to intercede for him with his Majesty; the Earl of Cromartie spoke also to the same effect: but Lord Balmerino pleaded in arrest of judgment, that his indictment was found in the county of Surrey,

Surrey, and, this being a point of law, desired that he might be allowed counsel to argue it, upon which the lords adjourned to their chamber, to consider of it, and soon after returned; ordered his plea to be argued on Friday next, and appointed Messrs. Wilbrake and Farrester for his counsel.

On the 1st of August the Lord High Steward, and the peers being come to Westminster Hall, the three rebel lords were brought to the bar, with the axe carried before them. Then the E. of Kilmarnock and E. of Cromartie were separately asked if they had any thing to propose why judgment should not be passed upon them; to which they answered in the negative. Then his Grace informed Lord Balmerino, that, having started an objection, desired counsel, and had their assistance, he was now to make use of it, if he thought fit, to argue that point.* His Lordship answered, he was sorry for the trouble he had given his Grace and the peers; that he would not have taken that step, if he had not been persuaded there was some ground for the objection; but that his counsel having satisfied him there was nothing in it that could tend to his service, he declined having them heard, submitted to the court, and was resolved to rely upon his Majesty's mercy.

His Grace then made a speech to the prisoners, almost to the same effect as that pronounced by Earl Cowper. But as the present rebellion was opposed with more unanimity and zeal than the last, his Grace took occasion to observe to their lordships, that the beginnings of the rebellion 'were so weak and unpromising, as to be capable 'of seducing none but the most infected and willing 'minds to join in so desperate an enterprise.—That it

* That the bill of indictment was found on an act of parliament passed in March last, by which prisoners, charged with high treason, were to be tried in such county as his Majesty should appoint; but as the treason with which his lordship was charged, is said to be committed at Carlisle, in the December before, he ought to have been indicted there, and not in Surrey, because the treason alleged to be committed was before the passing of the act, and therefore he could not be affected by it, and consequently the whole superstructure built thereon must fall to the ground. This objection, it is said, was suggested to all the lords, in a letter sent to each in the Tower, by an officious person; but the very title of the act includes "such persons as HAVE levied, or shall levy war, against his Majesty."

was

‘ was impossible even for the party of the rebels to be so
 ‘ inconsiderate or vain as to imagine, that the body of
 ‘ this free people, blest in the enjoyment of all their rights,
 ‘ both civil and religious, under his Majesty’s protection ;
 ‘ secure in the prospect of transmitting them safe to their
 ‘ posterity, under the Protestant succession in his royal
 ‘ house, would not rise up, as one man, to oppose and
 ‘ crush so flagitious, so destructive, and so unprovoked an
 ‘ attempt.—Accordingly the rebels soon saw his Majesty’s
 ‘ faithful subjects, conscious both of their duty and in-
 ‘ terest, contending to outdo one another in demonstra-
 ‘ tions of their zeal and vigour in his service.—Men of
 ‘ property, of all ranks and orders, crowded in with liberal
 ‘ subscriptions, of their own motion, beyond the examples
 ‘ of former times, and uncompelled by any law : and yet
 ‘ in the most legal and warrantable manner, notwithstand-
 ‘ ing what has been ignorantly and presumptuously sug-
 ‘ gested to the contrary.’—His lordship concluded thus :
 ‘ It has been his Majesty’s justice to bring your lordships
 ‘ to legal trial : and it has been his wisdom to shew, that,
 ‘ as a small part of his national forces was sufficient to
 ‘ subdue the rebel army in the field, so the ordinary course
 ‘ of his laws is strong enough to bring even their chiefs to
 ‘ justice.’

Then, after a short pause, his Grace pronounced sen-
 tence as in cases of high treason. Afterwards breaking
 his staff, put an end to the commission.

At six o’clock a troop of life-guards, one of horse-gre-
 nadiers, and 1000 of the foot-guards, (being fifteen men
 out of each company,) marched from the parade in St.
 James’s park through the city to Tower-hill, to attend the
 execution of the Earl of Kilmarnock and the Lord Bal-
 merino, and being arrived there, were posted in lines from
 the Tower to the scaffold, and all round it. About eight
 o’clock the sheriffs of London, with their under-sheriffs,
 and their officers, viz. six serjeants at mace, six yeomen,
 and the executioner, met at the Mitre tavern in Fenchurch-
 street, where they breakfasted, and went from thence to
 the house lately the Transport-office on Tower-hill, near
 Catherine-court, hired by them for the reception of the
 said lords, before they should be conducted to the scaf-
 fold,

fold, which was erected about thirty yards from the said house. At ten o'clock the block was fixed on the stage, and covered with black cloth, and several sacks of sawdust were brought up to strew on it; soon after their coffins were brought, covered with black cloth, ornamented with gilt nails, &c. On the Earl of Kilmarnock's was a plate with this inscription, "*Gulielmus Comes de Kilmarnock decollatus, 18 Augusti, 1746, Ætat. suæ 42,*" with an earl's coronet over it, and 6 coronets over the six handles; and on lord Balmerino's was a plate with this inscription, "*Arthurus Dominus de Balmerino decollatus, 18 Augusti, 1746, Ætat. suæ 58,*" with a baronet's coronet over it, and six others over the six handles. At a quarter after ten the sheriffs went in procession to the outward gate of the Tower, and, after knocking at it some time, a warder within asked, "Who's there?" The officer without answered, "The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex." The warder then asked, "What do they want?" The officer answered, "The bodies of William, Earl of Kilmarnock, and Arthur, Lord Balmerino." Upon which the warder said, "I will go and inform the Lieutenant of the Tower," and in about ten minutes the Lieutenant of the Tower, with the Earl of Kilmarnock,* and Major White with Lord Balmerino, guarded by several of the warders, came to the gate; the prisoners were there delivered to the Sheriffs, who gave proper receipts for their bodies to the Lieutenant, who, as is usual, said, "God bless King George;" to which the Earl of Kilmarnock assented by a bow, and the Lord Balmerino said, "God bless King James." Soon after, the procession, moving in a slow and solemn manner, appeared in the following order: 1. The Constable of the Tower-hamlets. 2. The Knight-Marshal's men and Tip-staves. 3. The Sheriffs' officers. 4. The Sheriffs, the Prisoners, and their Chaplains; Mr. Sheriff Blachford walking with the Earl of Kilmarnock, and Mr. Sheriff Cockayne with the Lord Balmerino. 5. The Tower Warders. 6. A guard of Musqueteers. 7. The two hearses and a mourning coach.

* At the foot of the first stairs, he met and embraced Lord Balmerino, who greatly (as Mr. Foster observes) said to him, "My Lord, I am heartily sorry to have your company in this expedition."

When

When the procession had passed through the lines into the area of the circle formed by the guards, the passage was closed, and the troops of horse, who were in the rear of the foot on the lines, wheeled off, and drew up five deep behind the foot, on the south side of the hill, facing the scaffold.

The lords were conducted into separate apartments in the house facing the steps of the scaffold; their friends being admitted to see them. The Earl of Kilmarnock was attended by the Rev. Mr. Foster, a dissenting minister, and the Rev. Mr. Hume, a near relation of the Earl of Hume; and the Chaplain of the Tower, and another clergyman of the church of England, accompanied the Lord Balmerino; who, on entering the door of the house, hearing several of the spectators ask eagerly, "Which is Lord Balmerino?" answered, smiling, "I am Lord Balmerino, gentlemen, at your service." The parlour and passage of the house, the rails enclosing the way from thence to the scaffold, and the rails about it, were all hung with black at the Sheriff's expense.

The Lord Kilmarnock, in the apartment allotted to him, spent about an hour in his devotions with Mr. Foster, who assisted him with prayer and exhortation.

After which Lord Balmerino, pursuant to his request, being admitted to confer with the earl, first thanked him for the favour, and then asked, 'If his lordship knew of any order signed by the Prince (meaning the Pretender's son) to give no quarter at the battle of Culloden.' And the earl answering, 'No,' Lord Balmerino added, 'Nor I neither, and therefore it seems to be an invention to justify their own murders.' The earl replied, 'he did not think this a fair inference, because he was informed, after he was prisoner at Inverness, by several officers, that such an order, signed George Murray, was in the duke's custody.'—'George Murray!' said Lord Balmerino, 'then they should not charge it on the Prince.' Then he took his leave, embracing Lord Kilmarnock, with the same kind of noble and generous compliments, as he had used before, 'My dear Lord Kilmarnock, I am only sorry that I cannot pay this reckoning alone; once more, farewell for ever!' and returned to his own room.

The earl then, with the company kneeling down joined in a prayer delivered by Mr. Foster : after which, having sat a few moments, and taken a second refreshment of a bit of bread and a glass of wine, he expressed a desire that Lord Balmerino might go first to the scaffold ; but being informed that this could not be, as his lordship was named first in the warrant, he appeared satisfied, saluted his friends, saying he should make no speech on the scaffold, but desired the ministers to assist him in his last moments, and they accordingly, with other friends, proceeded there with him. The multitude, who had been long expecting to see him on such an awful occasion, on his first appearing on the scaffold, dressed in black, with a countenance and demeanor,* testifying great contrition, shewed the deepest signs of commiseration and pity ; and his lordship, at the same time, being struck with such a variety of dreadful objects at once, the multitudes, the block, his coffin, the executioner, the instrument of death, turned about to Mr. Hume, and said, “ Hume ! this is terrible ;” though without changing his voice or countenance.

After putting up a short prayer, concluding with a petition for his Majesty King George and the royal family, in verification of his declaration in his speech, his lordship embraced, and took his last leave of his friend. The executioner, who before had something administered to keep him from fainting, was so affected with his lordship's distress, and the awfulness of the scene, that on asking him forgiveness, he burst into tears. My lord bid him take courage, giving him at the same time, a purse with five guineas, and telling him that he would drop his handkerchief as a signal for the stroke. He proceeded, with the help of his gentleman, to make ready for the block, by taking off his coat, and the bag from his hair, which was then tucked up under a napkin-cap, but this being made up so wide as not to keep up his long hair, the making it less occasioned a little delay ; his neck being laid bare, tucking down the collar of his shirt and waistcoat, he

* His person was tall and graceful, his countenance mild, and his complexion pale ; and more so, as he had been indisposed.

kneeled

kneeled down on a black cushion at the block, and drew his cap over his eyes, in doing which, as well as in putting up his hair, his hands were observed to shake ; but, either to support himself, or for a more convenient posture of devotion, he happened to lay both his hands upon the block, which the executioner observing, prayed his lordship to let them fall, lest they should be mangled, or break the blow. He was then told, that the neck of his waistcoat was in the way, upon which he rose, and with the help of a friend took it off, and the neck being made bare to the shoulders, he kneeled down as before. In the mean time, when all things were ready for the execution, and the black baize which hung over the rails of the scaffold, having, by direction of the colonel of the guard, or the sheriffs, been turned up that the people might see all the circumstances of the execution ; in about two minutes (the time he before fixed) after he kneeled down, his lordship dropping his handkerchief, the executioner at once severed his head from his body, except only a small part of the skin, which was immediately divided by a gentle stroke ; the head was received in a piece of red baize, and with the body immediately put into the coffin. The scaffold was then cleared from the blood, fresh sawdust strewed, and, that no appearance of a former execution might remain, the executioner changed such of his clothes as appeared bloody.

In the account said to be published by the authority of the sheriffs, it is asserted the Lord Kilmarnock requested his head might not be held up as usual, and declared to be the head of a traitor ; and that for this reason that part of the ceremony was omitted, as the sentence and law did not require it ; but we are assured, in Mr. Foster's account, that his lordship made no such request ; and further, that when he was informed that his head would be held up, and such proclamation made, it did not affect him, and he spoke of it as a matter of no moment. All that he wished or desired was, 1. That the executioner might not be, as represented to his lordship, " a good sort of man," thinking a rough temper would be fitter for the purpose. 2. That his coffin, instead of remaining in the hearse, might be set upon the stage :
and,

and, 3. That four persons might be appointed to receive the head, that it might not roll about the stage, but be speedily, with his body, put into the coffin.

While this was doing, the Lord Balmerino, after having solemnly recommended himself to the mercy of the Almighty, conversed cheerfully with his friends, refreshed himself twice with a bit of bread and a glass of wine, and desired the company to drink to him *ain de grae ta haiven*, acquainting them that he had prepared a speech which he should read on the scaffold, and therefore should there say nothing of its contents. The under-sheriff coming into his lordship's apartment to let him know the stage was ready, he prevented him by immediately asking if the affair was over with the Lord Kilmarnock, and being answered "It is," he inquired how the executioner performed his office, and upon receiving the account, said it was well done; then addressing himself to the company, said, "Gentlemen, I shall detain you no longer," and with an easy unaffected cheerfulness he saluted his friends, and hastened to the scaffold, which he mounted with so easy an air as astonished the spectators; his lordship was dressed in his regimentals, a blue coat turned up with red, trimmed with brass buttons, (and a tie-wig,) the same which he wore at the battle of Culloden; no circumstance in his whole deportment shewed the least sign of fear or regret, and he frequently reproved his friends for discovering either upon his account. He walked several times round the scaffold, bowed to the people, went to his coffin, read the inscription, and with a nod, said, it is right; he then examined the block, which he called his pillow of rest. His lordship putting on his spectacles, and taking a paper out of his pocket, read it with an audible voice, which, so far from being filled with passionate invective, mentioned his majesty as a prince of the greatest magnanimity and mercy, at the same time that, through erroneous political principles, it denied him a right to the allegiance of his people: having delivered this paper to the sheriff, he called for the executioner, who appearing, and being about to ask his lordship's pardon, he said, "Friend, you need not ask me forgiveness, the execution of your duty is commendable;"
upon

upon which his lordship gave him three guineas, saying, ' Friend, I never was rich, this is all the money I have ' now, I wish it was more, and I am sorry I can add nothing to it but my coat and waistcoat,' which he then took off, together with his neckcloth, and threw them on his coffin; putting on a flannel waistcoat, which had been provided for the purpose, and then taking a plaid cap out of his pocket, he put it on his head, saying he died a Scotchman; after kneeling down at the block to adjust his posture, and shew the executioner the signal for the stroke, which was dropping his arms, he once more turned to his friends, and took his last farewell, and looking round on the crowd, said, ' Perhaps some may think my ' behaviour too bold, but remember, Sir, (said he to a ' gentleman who stood near him) that I now declare it is ' the effect of confidence in God, and a good conscience, ' and I should dissemble if I should shew any signs of ' fear.'

Observing the axe in the executioner's hand as he passed him, he took it from him, felt the edge, and returning it, clapped the executioner on the shoulder to encourage him; he tucked down the collar of his shirt and waistcoat, and shewed him where to strike, desiring him to do it resolutely, for in that, says his lordship, will consist your kindness.

He went to the side of the stage, and called up the warder, to whom he gave some money, asked which was his hearse, and ordered the man to drive near.

Immediately, without trembling or changing countenance, he again knelt down at the block, and having with his arms stretched out, said, " O Lord reward my friends, forgive my enemies, and receive my soul," he gave the signal by letting them fall. But his uncommon firmness and intrepidity, and the unexpected suddenness of the signal so surprised the executioner, that though he struck the part directed, the blow was not given with strength enough to wound him very deep; on which it seemed as if he made an effort to turn his head towards the executioner, and the under jaw fell, and returned very quick, like anger and gnashing the teeth; but it could not be otherwise, the part being convulsed. A second blow immediately

mediately succeeding the first, rendered him, however, quite insensible, and a third finished the work.*

His head was received in a piece of red baize, and with his body put into the coffin, which, at his particular request, was placed on that of the late Marquis of Tullibardines's, in St. Peter's church in the Tower, all three lords lying in one grave.

During the whole course of the solemnity, although the hill, the scaffoldings, and houses, were crowded full of spectators, all persons attended with uncommon decency, and evenness of temper; which evinces how much the people entered into the rectitude of the execution, though too humane to rejoice in the catastrophe.

Lord Balmerino had but a small estate, though ground-lord and lord of the manor of Colcon, a long street in the suburbs of Edinburgh, leading to Leith, and had also some other small possessions in the shire of Fife. His lady came to London soon after him, and frequently attended him during his confinement in the Tower, and had lodgings in East Smithfield. She was at dinner with him when the warrant came for his execution the Monday following, and being very much surprised, he desired her not to be concerned at it; "If the king had given me mercy," said he, "I should have been glad of it; but since it is otherwise, I am very easy; for it is what I have expected, and therefore it does not at all surprise me." His lady seemed very disconsolate and rose immediately from table; on which he started from his chair,

* If we were to draw his character, abstracted from the consideration of his being an enemy to the present happy government, we should call him a blunt, resolute man, who would, if his principles had not been tainted with Jacobitism, have appeared honest in the eyes of those who love sincerity; but he was not so happy as to be loyal. His person was very plain, his shape clumsy, but his make strong, and had no marks about him of the polite gentleman, though his seeming sincerity recompensed all those defects. He was illiterate in respect of his birth, but rather from a total want of application to letters, than want of ability: several quaint stories are related of him, which seem to be the growth of wanton and fertile imagination, which is not at all to be wondered at in times that afford so much matter for invention.

He left a lady behind him, whom he called his Peggy; to whom, at his request, his Majesty allowed 50*l.* a year: whether any children, we are not able to say.

and

and said, " Pray, my lady, sit down, for it shall not spoil my dinner;" upon which her ladyship sat down again, but could not eat.

Several more of his sayings were related as remarkable, among others, that being advised to take care of his person, he replied, " It would be thought very imprudent in " a man to repair an old house, when the lease of it was " so near expiring."

CHARACTER OF

ARTHUR LORD BALMERINO.

*Quique metus omnes, & inexorabile Fatum,
Subjecit pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis avari.*

VIRG.

The abhorrence of pain is a principle implanted in all animals as the means of their preservation. To this in men is added the fear of death; and that is still heightened by apprehensions of what may happen afterwards. Yet pain is often unavoidable; and death, with its consequences, some time or other absolutely necessary. Hence arises the merit of courage, which consists in facing intrepidly and suffering cheerfully these evils, when they become either inevitable or * declinable only on unworthy terms. Great then are undoubtedly the obligations of mankind to those who, on such occasions, treat these terrors with the contempt they really deserve, and give us an useful lesson and example how to behave in an emergency which we ought every day to expect, and which we must one day certainly experience. The Greeks and Romans, therefore, looked even on suicide in an amiable light. It was with them the consummation† of a perfect character; and the extenuation‡ of the most faulty. Nor were they in this altogether impolitic; hence flowed that appetite for danger, that prodigality of life, which they knew so skilfully to direct to the public§ emoluments. But heaven-instructed Christians have un-

* Summum crede nefas animam præferre pudori;
Et propter vitam vivendi perdere causas.

JUV.

† Cato. ‡ Otho, Nero, &c.

§ Leonidas, Curtius, &c.

learnt this Pagan doctrine ; and yet, amongst the primitive, what was accounted more meritorious than a courageous, calm submission to civil punishment? It appears the constant aim of the martyrs, and had the happiest effects as to the promulgation of their precepts.

There has been lately seen among us a noble instance of the superiority of a great mind to fear, which, when passion and prejudice have subsided, will reflect honour on our times, and even be advantageous to former, as it bestows credibility on their most exaggerated heroical relations. I mean the death of the late Lord Balmerino.

But, before I proceed, it may be proper to declare, that, if I would vindicate and extol his death, I by no means intend to justify or excuse his life. I give up, with all good Englishmen, the French soldier, the Jacobite, the double rebel ; I concur with them in the rectitude of his sentence, and the necessity of its execution. It is at the Tower gate that I (with the sheriffs) take him up :—There the hero commences !

I will not injure, by comparing (as has been hitherto done) with pusillanimity itself, a fortitude that wants no foil, which all antiquity can scarcely parallel.

Lord Balmerino's carriage in the procession from the Tower, was easy and cheerful, his conversation in the preparatory room rational and pertinent.* His interview with his fellow-sufferer open and generous;† when on the scaffold, he had so little of the formal, piteous countenance there usually exhibited, that those who were unacquainted with his person, knew not for some time that he was there.‡ He told the officers that he would take up but little of their time ; that he was sensible the greatest part of it was already elapsed ; that he had had frequent opportunities to look into his future concerns, and should not settle those accounts in public. Accordingly, having, with much composure, given the necessary di-

* He discoursed, among other things, of the principle on which he had the block raised.

† He told him he was sorry to have his company in such an expedition, and that he wished he alone could pay the whole reckoning.

‡ He was himself asked by one, where Lord Balmerino was ? whom he answered, bowing, “ I am he, at your service.”

rections, he prepared for the blow with the greatest* alacrity, and with an expedition, which was only interrupted by an act of generosity,† and a mistake‡ which, to a weak mind, might have been productive of extreme disorder, but served only to elevate his character. And though, through the whole of this transaction, nothing appeared but intrepidity and constancy, yet this hero confessed the man. He had his fears, but they were glorious ones: he feared, he said, that his conduct would be thought too bold; willingly would he have seemed less so, but could not play the hypocrite. So far was he from an affected ostentation of his prodigious courage! a courage which was attended by the most desirable effect, the most indisputable evidence. This nobleman parted with life with such§ unconcern as convinced the spectators that it was not only to him, but really in itself, of no importance. The black solemnity could not obscure his serenity, nor imprint on them a gloom not to be dispelled by such lustre. They found there was nothing unnatural in dying, nothing horrible in death itself; they felt no emotion.

Thus greatly, unlamented, fell Arthur Lord Balmerino, a man of the most incredible courage, the most commendable sincerity, and the most engaging simplicity, who was an honour to the worst cause, and would have been an ornament to the best; whose faults will one day be forgotten, and his virtues remembered.

And sure the little here said (with strict truth) in his favour, cannot possibly give offence to the most zealous

* He undressed in a manner which occasioned many to apply Shakespeare's observation, he was

“A bridegroom in his death; and run into ’t

“As to a lover's bed.”—

† He gave something to one who had behaved well to him in his confinement, whom he singled out in the crowd.

‡ He laid himself on the wrong side of the block, but on information rectified it with surprising composure and dispatch.

§ — Non aliter—

Dimovit obstantes propinquos,

Et populum, - - -

Quam ———

Tendens Venafranum in agros,

Aut Lacedæmonium Tarentum.

HOR.

loyalist. There is a justice surely due to the characters of gallant enemies, Our law never intends to execute reputations, and its most rigid sentence, pronounced on the least pardonable occasion, confines the punishment to the body merely, and in the midst of judgment remembers mercy.*

CHARLES RATCLIFFE, Esq.

Who assumed the title of Earl of Derwentwater.

THIS gentleman was one of those who took part in the rebellion, under a commission from the King of France, and was taken, with many others, on his passage to Scotland, by the Seahorse frigate. He was the youngest brother of the Earl of Derwentwater, who was attainted and executed in the first rebellion, and his titles and estates, consequently forfeited to the crown. He was, with his brother, taken at Preston, tried, convicted, and condemned, but several times respited, and would probably have been pardoned, had he not, with thirteen others, made his escape out of a room called the castle, in Newgate, through a small door which had been accidentally left open, leading to the debtors side, where the turnkey, not knowing them, let them out of the prison, supposing they were persons who had come in to see their friends.

He immediately procured a passage to France, and from thence followed the Pretender to Rome, subsisting on such petty pension as his master could allow him. Returning some short time afterwards, he married the widow of Lord Newborough, by whom he had a son.

In 1733 he came to England, and resided in Pall-Mall, without any molestation, though it was well known to the ministry.† He returned to France, and in 1735, again

* In the sentence against high treason, after punishment of the body, the soul is recommended to mercy.

† Some years after the quelling of the last rebellion, the Pretender came in disguise to view London. This was a natural, but dangerous curiosity, to behold the place where his grandfather, King James II. had been on the throne.

again came to England to solicit his pardon, but without success, though he appeared publicly, and visited several families, particularly in Essex. Returning again to France, he unfortunately accepted of the French king's commission, to act as an officer in the rebellion, and was taken as we have already described.

On the 22d of October, 1746, he was brought to the bar of the Court of King's Bench, and was arraigned, but refused to hold up his hand, or acknowledge any other jurisdiction than that of the King of France, insisting on a commission he had in his pocket from him, and appealing to the Sicilian ambassador, who was then in court, for the authenticity thereof. On hearing his former indictment and conviction read, he said that he was not the Charles Ratcliffe therein named, but that he was the Earl of Derwentwater, and his counsel informed the court, that such was the plea they meant to abide by, and thereupon issue was gained.

Then the counsel for the prisoner moved to put off his trial, upon his own affidavit (to which he had subscribed himself the Count de Derwentwater,) that two of his material witnesses, naming them, were abroad, without whose testimony he could not safely go to trial. To which affidavit the counsel for the crown objected, as not being entitled as in the cause before the court, nor the two witnesses sworn to be material, in the issue then joined between the king and the prisoner; and also, because the prisoner had not so much as undertaken to swear for himself, that he was not the person, which, as it was a fact entirely in his own knowledge, ought to be required of him, if he would entitle himself to this favour from the court; this being a proceeding very different from the trial upon a not-guilty, in an original prosecution on a charge of high treason or other crime, the identity of the person being the single fact to be inquired

throne. Ministers being apprised of this circumstance, in haste went to King George II. with the information, and recommended his immediate apprehension. The monarch, with one of his shrewd answers, for which he was remarkable, replied, "No—let the poor man satisfy his curiosity; when done, he will quietly go back to France." The King's observation was verified.

of,

of, and a case in which the crown had a right by law to proceed instanter. Upon this the prisoner amended his affidavit as to the witnesses, but refused to supply it so far as to swear he was not the same person. And the court said, this was a new precedent, there being no instance of any application to put off the trial of a question of this sort before; and that this was like an inquest of office, in order to inform the conscience of the court, and what the public had a right to proceed in instanter. And therefore that the prisoner ought to give all reasonable satisfaction to induce them to grant such a favour as the prisoner desired, for they could not in conscience and justice to the public indulge him, without a reasonable satisfaction that his plea was true. But the prisoner still refusing to swear to the truth of his plea, the jury were called, and after two or three of the panel had been sworn, Mr. Ratcliffe challenged the next that was called, as of right, without assigning any reason; but upon debate of the question, how far he had right to challenge? the court said, it had been determined before, in all the latter cases, and particularly in the case of one Jordan, that the prisoner, in such a case as this had no peremptory challenge; upon which the rest of the jury were sworn, and after a clear evidence of the identity of the person on the part of the crown, the prisoner producing none on his part, the jury withdrew about ten minutes, and then found their verdict, that he was the same Charles Ratcliffe who was convicted of high treason in the year 1715. Then the attorney-general moved to have execution awarded against the prisoner on his former judgment; to which the prisoner's counsel objected, tendering a plea of pardon by act of parliament, in bar of execution. But the court said, as he had already pleaded such a plea as he chose to rely on, and as that was found against him, nothing more remained for them to do at present, but to award execution; and if his counsel had any thing to offer in his behalf, they would have time to do it before the day of execution; and ordered a rule to be made for the proper writs for his execution on the 8th of next month, and remanded the prisoner to the Tower. He was about five feet ten inches high, upwards of fifty,
was.

was dressed in scarlet, faced with black velvet, and gold buttons, a gold-laced waistcoat, bag wig, and had a hat with a white feather.

His design in styling himself Earl of Derwentwater, was, that he might pass for Francis, his younger brother, who went to France before 1715, but was thought to be dead. He would not call the Lord Chief Justice lord, because the title of earl was not given him. He refused to hold up his hand at the bar, and being told that as a gentleman he ought to comply, and that his own counsel would satisfy him that it was only a form of the court, he said, I know many things that I will not advise with my counsel upon. On hearing the rule for his execution, he desired time, because he and Lord Moreton (in the Bastile at Paris) should take the same journey at the same time.

About eight o'clock on the 8th of December, two troops of life-guards, and one troop of horse-guards, marched through the city for Little Tower-hill, where they were joined by a battalion of foot-guards, to attend the execution of Charles Ratcliffe, Esq. About ten o'clock the block, with a cushion, both covered with black, were brought up, and fixed upon the stage, and soon after Mr. Ratcliffe's coffin, covered with black velvet, with eight handles, which with the nails were gilt with gold, but there was no plate, or any inscription upon it. At near eleven the sheriffs, Mr. Alderman Winterbottom, and Mr. Alderman Alsop, with their officers, came to see if the scaffold was finished, (the carpenters, &c. who had very short notice, having worked all day on Sunday and the ensuing night,) and if every thing was prepared for Mr. Ratcliffe's reception; which being to their satisfaction, they went to the Tower, and demanded the body of Mr. Ratcliffe, of General Williamson, deputy governor; upon being surrendered, he was first put into a landau, and carried over the wharf, at the end of which he was put into a mourning coach, and conveyed into a small booth joining to the stairs of the scaffold, lined with black, where he spent about half an hour in devotion, and then, preceded by the sheriffs, the divine, and some gentlemen his friends. When he came upon the scaffold, he took leave of his friends with great serenity and calmness of mind,
and

and having spoken a few words to the executioner, gave him a purse of ten guineas, and put on a damask cap, knelt down to prayers, which lasted about seven minutes, all the spectators on the scaffold kneeling with him. Prayers being over, he pulled off his clothes, and put his head to the block, from whence he soon got up, and having spoke a few words, he knelt down to it, and fixing his head, in about two minutes gave the signal to the executioner, who at three blows struck it off, which was received in a scarlet cloth held for that purpose. He was dressed in scarlet, faced with black velvet, trimmed with gold, a gold-laced waistcoat, and a white feather in his hat. He behaved with the greatest fortitude and coolness of temper, and was no way shocked at the approach of death.

His body was immediately put into the coffin, and carried back in a hearse to the Tower, and the scaffold, booth, and all the boards belonging to them, were cleared away in the afternoon. He behaved himself very alert until the 4th, when he received a letter from his niece, the Lady Petre, which engaged him to appear in a more serious manner, agreeably to his unhappy fate. His corpse was, on the 11th, carried in a hearse, attended by two mourning coaches, to St. Giles's in the fields, and there interred with the remains of the late Earl of Derwentwater, according to his desire, with this inscription on his coffin:

“Carolus Ratcliffe, Comes de Derwentwater, decollatus die 8 Decembris, 1746. Ætatis 53. Requiescat in pace.”

It seems the Derwentwater estate was only confiscated to the crown for the life of Charles Ratcliffe, Esq.; but by a clause in an act of parliament passed some years since, which says, that the issue of any person attainted of high treason, born and bred in any foreign dominion, and a Roman Catholic, shall forfeit his reversion of such estate, and the remainder shall for ever be fixed in the crown, his son was absolutely deprived of any title or interest in the affluent fortune of that ancient family, to the amount of more than 200,000*l*.

This



THOMAS CAPPOCK.

This unhappy gentleman was the youngest brother of James Earl of Derwentwater, who was executed in 1716; they were sons of Sir Francis Radcliffe, by the lady Mary Tudor, natural daughter to King Charles II. by Mrs. Mary Davis.

He died in the principles in which he had lived, and was so zealous a papist, that, on the absurdities of some things which are held sacred by the church of Rome being objected to him, he replied,

‘That for every tenet of that church, repugnant to reason, in which she requires an implicit belief, he wished there were twenty, that he might thereby have a nobler opportunity of exercising and displaying his faith.’

THOMAS CAPPOCK,

THE REBEL BISHOP OF CARLISLE.

WE have already, in our statement of the strength of the garrison at Carlisle, announced a bishop, created by the Pretender. Such anecdotes of this enthusiastic rebel, as we have been able to glean from the public prints of the year of this rebellion, we have put together, in order to allot to this would-be Right Reverend Father in God, a memoir independent of the treacherous group among whom he swung on the gallows.

On the 12th of August, 1746, the Lord Chief Baron Parker, Baron Clarke, Judges Burnett and Dennison, arrived at Carlisle, and by virtue of a special commission for that purpose to them directed, convened a court for the purpose of trying the rebels found in arms, on the surrender of Carlisle. On the 14th the Scotch prisoners were arraigned, but the witnesses in behalf of the crown (also Scotchmen) refused to swear in the form prescribed by the laws of England. The judges therefore deferred the trial in order to consult on this contumacy; but next morning allowed them to take the oath after the Scotch form. Bills of indictment were found against all the officers, as well as bishop Cappock; but the common men, amounting to

near four hundred were ordered to cast lots, and of every twenty, nineteen were to be transported, and the twentieth put upon his trial for high treason. Some few refused this lenity, depending upon so deceiving the evidence as not to recognize them; for this purpose they cut off each other's hair, changed their clothing, and by every other method which they could devise, disguised themselves.

When the grand jury presented true bills, the whole of those indicted were brought to the bar, whom the Lord Chief Baron told that the court desired them to choose what counsel they pleased, with a solicitor—that the court had given orders to their clerk, to make out subpoenas for them, gratis, and by virtue thereof, to bring forward such witnesses as they imagined could, in any manner, tend to their exculpation.*

In order to give them every chance for this end, the judges adjourned the court, and proceeded to the city of York, where a number more of rebels were in confinement, and where bills were found against seventy-nine of them. It was near a month before they returned to Carlisle. On the 9th of September, 1762, they were arraigned at the bar of the court of the latter city, of whom fifty-nine pleaded not guilty. On the 10th forty-five more were brought up, and all pleaded not guilty, except three, one of whom was a desperate, turbulent fellow, a rebel captain, named Robert Taylor, who had repeatedly vaunted that he would take Edinburgh castle in three days. The next day twelve more were arraigned and among them was the rebellious bishop.

He appeared at the bar in his gown and cassock, assumed much confidence, and appeared to entertain no idea that he could be convicted. He made a speech to the court and jury, which chiefly went to shew, that he joined the rebels by compulsion alone. He called his father, and one Mary Humphries, to substantiate this assertion; but their evidence fell far short of so doing. A

* We make here an involuntary pause upon the humanity of the English law, extended to the utmost in this case, to men taken in arms against their sovereign; and we rather doubt, whether the Pretender, had he gained his cause, would have allotted his prisoners quite so fair a trial.

witness, however, proved, that the prisoner had made an attempt to escape from the rebels. On the other side, it was proved, that he voluntarily went with the rebels from Manchester to Derby, and thence back to Carlisle. It further appeared, that wherever the rebels went he read public prayers for King James, Charles Prince of Wales, Regent of England. At Manchester he preached in one of the churches, and took his text from Psal. xcvi. 1. "The Lord is King, the earth may be glad thereof." At Carlisle he appeared the Church Militant, with a hanger by his side, a plaid sash, and white cockade, acting also as a quarter-master. Another witness proved, that this fighting bishop told him of his engaging two of the king's soldiers, and taking them both prisoners; and he vaunted, that his Prince had offered battle to the Duke of Cumberland, who ran away; that they (the rebels) returned to Scotland, only to join Lord George Drummond, who had landed with many thousand French, to assist their cause.* His evidence, Miss Humphries, was shewn a letter, which she acknowledged to be the hand-writing of the bishop; wherein he had the effrontery to tell the barefaced falsehood of the Duke of Cumberland ordering him to be kept on half a pound of bread per day, and nasty water, because he advised to give battle to him at Stanwix, and protested against the surrender of Carlisle.

The jury, notwithstanding the confidence apparent in the prisoner through his whole trial, which lasted six hours, in two minutes found him guilty. †

The priest, it seems, still did not abandon himself to his fate; for in a few days it was discovered, that he and six more condemned rebels, had sawed off their irons, and were about to attempt an escape. The instrument with

* This gasconade had a spice of the French in it, from whom the mock bishop doubtless acquired this Bobadil-like boasting. We have even seen the reverse; the Duke constantly pursuing the Pretender.

† Another furious non-juring priest was taken among the rebels, of the name of Robert Lyon. This turbulent rebel, under the gallows at Penrith, read a long and infamous libel against the king and government of England, and the sheriff, to his disgrace, permitted him to harangue, in a similar strain, near half an hour, with the halter round his neck, concluding with this hardened exclamation, "If my life was now given to me, I would still continue in the same principles, and assist the virtuous cause of King James."

which they effected this, was prepared for the purpose by a new and curious method. It is thus described, "They laid a silk handkerchief singly over the mouth of a drinking-glass, and tied it hard at the bottom, then struck the edge of a case-knife on the brim of the glass (thus covered to prevent noise) till it became a saw. With such knives they cut their irons, and when the teeth were blunt, they had recourse to the glass to renew it. A knife will not cut a handkerchief when struck upon it in this manner."

Cappock, with the other convicted rebels, were hanged at Carlisle, on the 28th of October, 1746.

To enumerate the different trials of the rebels convicted and executed would nearly fill one of our volumes; and having given the outlines of the treason in which they were all implicated, a recapitulation of the evidence to the same tenor, is unnecessary. Let it therefore suffice to say, that numbers were executed in different parts of England, and many of their heads placed on public buildings, and others transported to America.

Yet, we think our readers would be gratified by a knowledge of the escape of the leading man of this French treachery and rebellion—the young Pretender; and to this end, we have selected the following interesting and genuine account:

"That decisive engagement was fought on the 16th of April, 1746, in which the Pretender had his horse shot under him, by one of the troopers in the king's service, as he was endeavouring to rally his people. After his forces were entirely defeated, he retired to the house of a factor of Lord Lovat, about ten miles from Inverness, where, meeting with that lord, he stayed supper. After supper was over he set out for Fort Augustus, and pursued his journey next day to Invergarry, where he proposed to have dined; but finding no victuals, he set a boy to fishing, who caught two salmon, on which he made a dinner, and continued waiting there for some of his troops, who had promised to rendezvous at that place; but being disappointed, he resolved to proceed to Lochharciage.

"He arrived there on the 18th, at two in the morning, where he went to sleep, which he had not done for five days

days and nights. He remained there till five o'clock in the afternoon, in hopes of obtaining some intelligence; but gaining none, he set out from thence on foot, and travelled to the Glen or Morar, where he arrived the 19th at four in the morning. He set out about noon the same day for Arrashag, where he arrived about four in the afternoon. He remained there about seven days, waiting for Captain O'Neil, who joined him on the 27th, and informed him, that there were no hopes of drawing his troops together again in a body; upon which he resolved to proceed to Stornway, in order to hire a ship to go to France.

“The person employed for this purpose was one Donald M'Leod, who had an interest there. On the 28th he went on board an eight-oar'd boat, in company with Sullivan and O'Neil, ordering the people who belonged to the boat to make the best haste they could to Stornway. The night proving very tempestuous, they all begged of him to go back, which he would not do, but, to keep up the spirits of the people, he sang them a Highland song; but the weather growing worse and worse, on the 29th, about seven in the morning, they were driven on shore, on a point of land called Rushness, in the island of Benbicula, where, when they got on shore, the Pretender helped to make a fire to warm the crew, who were almost starved to death with cold. On the 30th, at six in the evening, they set sail again for Stornway, but meeting with another storm, were obliged to put into the island of Scalpa, in the Harris, where they all went on shore to a farmer's house, passing for merchants that were shipwrecked in their voyage to the Orkneys; the Pretender and Sullivan going by the names of Sinclair, the latter passing for the father, and the former his son.

“They thought proper to send from thence to Donald M'Leod at Stornway, with instructions to freight a ship for the Orkneys: On the 3d of May they received a message from him, that a ship was ready. On the 4th they set out on foot for that place, where they arrived on the 5th about noon, and meeting with Donald M'Leod, they found that he had got into company, where growing drunk, he told a friend of his for whom he had hired the ship;

ship; upon which there were 200 people in arms at Stornway, upon a report that the Pretender was landed with 500 men, and was coming to burn the town; so that they were obliged to lie all night upon the moor, with no other refreshment than biscuit and brandy.

“ On the 6th they resolved to go in the eight-oar'd boat, to the Orkneys, but the crew refused to venture, so that they were obliged to steer south along the coast-side, where they met with two English ships, and this compelled them to put into a desert island, where they remained till the 10th, without any provision but some salt-fish, they found upon the island. About ten in the morning of that day they embarked for the Harris, and at break of day on the 11th they were chased by an English ship, but made their escape among the rocks. About four in the afternoon they arrived at the island of Benbicula, where they staid till the 14th, and then set out for the mountain of Currada in South Uist, where they staid till the militia of the isle of Sky came to the island of Irasky, and then sailed for the island of Uia, where they remained three nights, till having intelligence that the militia were coming towards Benbicula, they immediately got into their boat, and sailed for Lochbusdale; but being met by some ships of war, they were obliged to return to Lochagnart, where they remained all day, and at night sailed for Lochbusdale, where they arrived, and staid eight days on a rock, making a tent of the sail of the boat.

They found themselves there in a most dreadful situation; for, having intelligence that Captain Scot had landed at Kilbride, the company was obliged to separate, and the Pretender and O'Neil went to the mountains, where they remained all night, and soon after were informed that General Campbell was at Bernary; so that now they had forces very near, on both sides of them, and were absolutely at a loss which way to move. In their road they met with a young lady, one Miss M'Donald, to whom Captain O'Neil proposed assisting the Pretender to make his escape, which at first she refused; but, upon his offering to put on woman's clothes, she consented, and desired them to go to the mountain of Currada

Currada till she sent for them, where they accordingly staid two days; but hearing nothing from the young lady, the Pretender concluded she would not keep her word, and therefore resolved to send Captain O'Neil to General Campbell, to let him know he was willing to surrender to him; but about five in the evening a message came from the young lady, desiring them to meet her at Rushness. Being afraid to pass by the Ford, because of the militia, they luckily found a boat, which carried them to the other side of Uia, where they remained part of the day, afraid of being seen by the country people. In the evening they set out for Rushness, and arrived there at twelve at night: but not finding the young lady, and being alarmed by a boat full of militia, they were obliged to retire two miles back, where the Pretender remained on a moor till O'Neil went to the young lady, and prevailed upon her to come to the place appointed at night-fall of the next day. About an hour after they had an account of General Campbell's arrival at Benbicula, which obliged them to move to another part of the island, where, as the day broke, they discovered four sail close on the shore, making directly up to the place where they were; so that there was nothing left for them to do, but to throw themselves among the heath. When the wherries were gone, they resolved to go to Clanronald's house; but when they were within a mile of it, they heard General Campbell was there, which forced them to retreat again.

The young Pretender having at length, with the assistance of Captain O'Neil, found Miss M'Donald in a cottage near the place appointed, it was there determined that he should put on women's clothes, and pass for her waiting-maid. This being done, he took leave of Sullivan and O'Neil with great regret, who departed to shift for themselves, leaving him and his new mistress in the cottage, where they continued some days, during which she cured him of the itch. Upon intelligence that General Campbell was gone further into the country, they removed to her cousins, and spent the night in preparing for their departure to the Isle of Sky; accordingly they set out the next morning, with only one man-servant named M'Lean and two rowers; during their voyage they were
pursued

pursued by a small vessel, but a thick fog rising they arrived safe at midnight in that island, and landed at the foot of a rock, where the lady and her maid waited while her man M'Lean went to see if Sir Alexander M'Donald was at home; M'Lean found his way thither but lost it returning back; his mistress and her maid, after in vain expecting him the whole night, were obliged in the morning to leave the rock, and go in the boat up the creek to some distance, to avoid the militia which guarded the coast.

They went on shore again about ten o'clock, and attended by the rowers, enquired the way to Sir Alexander's, when they had gone about two miles, they met M'Lean; he told his lady that Sir Alexander was with the Duke of Cumberland, but his lady was at home, and would do them all the service she could; whereupon they discharged their boat, and went directly to the house, where they remained two days. Betty being always in her lady's chamber, except at night, to prevent a discovery. But a party of the M'Leod's having intelligence that some strangers were arrived at Sir Alexander's, and knowing his lady was well affected to the Pretender, came thither, and demanding to see the new comers, were introduced to Miss's chamber, where she sat with her new maid. The latter hearing the militia was at the door had the presence of mind to get up and open it, which occasioned his being the less taken notice of; and after they had narrowly searched the closets, they withdrew.

The inquiry however alarmed the lady, and the next day she sent her maid to a steward of Sir Alexander's: but hearing that his being in the island was known, he removed to M'Donald's at Kingsborough, ten miles distant: where he remained but one day: for on receiving intelligence that it was rumoured he was disguised in a woman's habit, M'Donald furnished him with a suit of his own clothes, and he went in a boat to Macleod's, at Raza; but having no prospect of escaping thence to France, he returned back on foot to the Isle of Sky, being thirty miles, with no attendant but a ferryman, whom he would

would not suffer to carry his wallet, M'Leod assuring him that the elder Laird of M'Innon would there render him all the service in his power.

When he arrived, not knowing the way to M'Innon's home, he chanced to inquire of a gentleman, whom he met on the top of a mountain; this gentleman having seen him before, thought he recollected his face, and asked him if he was not the P. This greatly surprised him, but seeing the gentleman had only one person, a servant, with him, he answered, I am, at the same time putting himself in a posture of defence: but this person immediately discovered himself to be his good friend Captain Macleod, and conducted him to M'Innon's. The old man instantly knew him, but advised him immediately to go to Lochabar, and he accordingly set sail in a vessel which M'Innon procured for that purpose.

After remaining seven days in the glens of Morar, he received advice that M'Donald of Lochgarrie expected him in Lochabar, where he had one hundred resolute Highlanders in arms; upon this he went over the great hill of Morar, in a tattered Highland habit, and was joyfully received by M'Donald at the head of his men.

With this party he roved from place to place, till finding he could no longer remain in Lochabar, he removed to Badenoch; but being harrassed by the king's troops, and losing daily some of his men in skirmishing, they dispersed; and the Pretender, with Lochiel of Barrisdale, and some others, skulked about in Moidart. Here they received advice that two French privateers were at anchor in Lochnanaugh in Moidart, on one of which, called the Happy, he embarked, with 23 gentlemen, and one hundred and seven common men, and soon after arrived safe in France.

*LORD LOVAT,**The oldest Chief of the Rebellion.*

THIS hoary rebel had spent a long life, without one single noble trait in his character.

In the year 1692 he was appointed a captain in Lord Tullibardine's regiment, but resigned, in order to prosecute his claim to be the chief of the Frazers; to effect which he laid a scheme to get the heiress of Lovat, who was about to be married to a son of Lord Salton. He raised a clan, who violently seized the young lord, and, erecting a gibbet, shewed it to him and his father, threatening their instant death, unless they relinquished the contract made for the heiress of Lovat. To this, fearing their lives, they consented; but still unable to get possession of the young lady, he seized the Dowager Lady Lovat in her own house, caused a priest to marry them against her consent, cut her stays open with his dirk, and, assisted by his ruffians, tore off her clothes, forced her into bed, to which he followed her, and then called them to witness the consummation of the outrageous marriage. For this breach of the peace he was indicted, but flying from justice, he was, nevertheless, tried for a rape, and for treason, in opposing the laws with an armed force, and sentence of outlawry was pronounced against him.

He fled to France, where he ingratiated himself with the Pretender, turned Papist, and was rewarded by him with a commission. Before he could effect his premeditated mischief, under sanction of this pretended power, he was apprehended on the remonstrance of the English Ambassador in Paris, and lodged in the Bastile, where he remained some years, and effected his liberty by taking priest's orders, under colour of which, he became a Jesuit in the college of St. Omer.

On the first rebellion of 1715 he returned to Scotland, and joining the King's troops, assisted them in seizing Inverness from the rebels; for which service he got the title of Lovat, was appointed to command, and had other favours conferred upon him.

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In the rebellion on which we are now treating, he turned sides, and joined the Pretender; a step treacherous in the extreme. When taken, he was old, unwieldy, and almost helpless, yet had been possessed of infinite resources to assist the rebellion. He petitioned the Duke of Cumberland for mercy, and, hoping to work upon his feelings, recapitulated his former services, the favours that he had received from his grandfather, King Geo. I. dwelt much upon his access to court, said he had carried him (to whom he now sued for his life) in his arms, and when a baby, held him up while his grandsire fondled upon him. On the publication of this petition a wit of the day wrote the following lines:

“ You nurs’d me, and buss’d me, and hugg’d me, ’tis true,
 When I was but a babe in a coat;
 But now I’m grown big, * and as bulky as you,
 You would, if you could, cut my throat.
 Yet, waving all this, if indeed you’ll repent,
 Tho’ you’ve prov’d such a wicked old Tartar,
 Let the Pope, your good father, but make you a saint,
 I will promise to make you a martyr.”

When brought up to the House of Lords, the articles of impeachment were read to him, after which, he made a long speech at the bar, signifying the great esteem he had for his Majesty and the royal family, and enumerating divers instances of the great services he did the government, in extinguishing the rebellion of 1715. He likewise took notice of his infirmities, particularly his deafness, and declared that he had not heard one word of the article read against him. His lordship was allowed till the 13th of January to prepare his defence, and four counsellors and three solicitors were assigned him.

Monday, March 9.—First Day.

About ten o’clock the Lord Lovat was brought from the Tower, attended by Mr Fowler the gentleman-gaoler, under a strong guard, to Westminster-hall. Soon after, the Lord High Steward, in his state-coach, drawn by six

* The Duke was, in person, a very fat, gross man.

horses, with five led coaches, and followed in a grand procession by the Lord Chief Justice Willes, the Lord Chief Baron Parker, and the rest of the judges, and the masters in chancery went to the House of Peers. After which they adjourned to Westminster-hall, and being there seated in their robes, the commission for appointing a lord high steward was presented to his lordship by the clerk of the crown, and by him read, and all present stood uncovered, according to proclamation. Then the articles of impeachment, which had been exhibited against Lord Lovat, with his lordship's answer, and the replication of the commons, were read.

The Lord High Steward then acquainted him with the nature of his crime, to which he pleaded not guilty.

Sir William Yonge, in a speech which lasted near three quarters of an hour, supported the said articles, and displayed the great turpitude of the crimes of rebellion and high treason, particularly as aggravated by the circumstances charged against the lord at the bar, which, he said, the commons were ready to prove by indubitable evidence. He was seconded by the Lord Coke, who animadverted very severely upon Lord Lovat's conduct with respect to his son. Sir Dudley Rider, in a speech which lasted an hour and a half, opened the charge, and related the several overt acts in order, which the witnesses for the prosecution were to support, and read several letters, among which was that to Lord President.

Sir John Strange, after a very short speech, called one Shield, a witness.

Here the Lord Lovat requested of the court that, as persons in his circumstances were allowed pen, ink, and paper, and to take minutes of what was said, and as he was not able to take the benefit of this privilege himself, without which it would be impossible for him to make his defence, some other person might be permitted to do it for him; he also desired that his counsel might speak for him.

As to taking minutes, the Lord High Steward replied, that the court could not formally grant such a request, but that he observed a person standing near his lordship, who had been employed in taking notes ever since the proceedings

proceedings had been begun, and that through the lenity of the court he had not been interrupted; and that his counsel could not be allowed to speak, except a point of law should arise.

Lord Lovat still persisting in his request for counsel, Sir William Yonge said the managers of the house of commons could not consent to it without going to their own house for further instructions.

Shield, the witness, being brought to the bar, the Lord Lovat excepted against him, as being his tenant; and alleged that, by the laws of Scotland, tenants could not be examined against their lord. The Lord Steward replied that he knew of no such law in England: Lord Lovat then named a statute which incapacitated such persons to give evidence in cases of treason, as would be benefited by the attainder; and several clauses of the act were read for the prisoner's satisfaction. After which the witness, on being asked, denied that he held any thing of the prisoner by tack or lease; and being asked, at Lord Talbot's desire, if he would receive any benefit from the attainder of the unfortunate lord at the bar, he replied in the negative.

It was moved by Sir John Strange that this witness might be sworn in chief, which was ordered accordingly; but before this was done, Lord Lovat desired the witness might be asked whether he was indebted to him. Sir Dudley Rider replied, that if he was it would not disqualify him; upon which, being interrupted by the prisoner, the Lord Steward interposed, and told him the managers must not be interrupted; and the witness then kissed the book, and being examined by Sir John Strange, deposed to the following effect, having in his hand a memorandum of his own writing, to refresh his memory.

That he had known Lord Lovat ever since the year 1733, had frequently conversed with him on public affairs, and was told by him that he had sent a letter to Lord Seaforth, in 1719, by Lieutenant M'Kinnon, inviting him to make a new attempt, and promising him to join him with all his men.

That the witness made affidavit of this, and sent it to
the

the ministry by the Duke of Athol; but that Lord Lovat had the address to get clear of this discovery.

That in 1736, when he, the Lord Lovat, was sheriff of Inverness, he suffered Roy Stuart to escape out of the public gaol, from whence he went directly to the said lord's house, where he was entertained six weeks, and set out for France in his lordship's chaise, being charged with messages from him to the Pretender, professing his fidelity, and soliciting the post of lieutenant-general of the Highlands, and the title of duke.

That in 1742 he received the said commission, on which he declared that he was then in a condition to humble his neighbours. That he, with six others, signed and sealed an association, and sent it to Paris and Rome, by Murray of Broughton, in 1740, the purport of which was to inform the Pretender of his readiness to appear in arms for his service, and soliciting an invasion from France. That these persons, at their meetings, drank healths, and sung catches, such as "Confusion to the white horse, and all its generation;" and

"When JEMMY comes o'er

We shall have blood and blows good store;"

which last were originally composed in Irish. That in 1745 he ordered his son to read the Pretender's manifesto, to which this witness objecting, he called him a traitor, &c. That he offered this witness a captain's commission, which he refused. That in a conversation about religion, he said, there was but one true religion, the Popish; that he cursed the reformation, because it brought in a false religion, and the revolution, because it brought us in debt. That many of his tenants refusing to come into the rebellion, he threatened to cut them off. That he sent for his son, the Master of Lovat, then nineteen, from the university of St. Andrew, in order to his accepting a commission from the Pretender, and heading the clan. The witness having gone through his examination, the Lord Lovat being asked if he had any questions to put to him, replied, he had alleged so many falsehoods, that he did not know what to ask him, or where to begin; but observed, he had been employed in soliciting witnesses against him, which

which Shield denied, and Lord Lovat said he could prove. Being cross-examined how long he had been in town, and at whose expense he was now maintained, he answered that he came to town on Tuesday then last, and was maintained at the government's expense, though he intended to live at his own.

Mr. Murray, the solicitor-general, then called one Robert Fraser, who was sworn, and declared, that he was no tenant to the prisoner; but Lord Lovat excepted against him, and offered to prove him a tenant by the written tack.

The Earl of Colomonley submitted it, whether this could be regularly done after the witness had been sworn. Lord St—rd being of opinion that it might, the prisoner was directed to call his witnesses. After a short pause, he said they were all gone, not expecting to be called that day, and desired to be indulged till the morrow; this was opposed by the managers; Mr. Noel, in particular, observed that no judicial proceedings could be dispatched, if such delays were admitted. This witness then deposed in substance as follows: That he was servant to Lord Lovat, and taken prisoner with him. That after the Pretender's landing in July, (of whom Lord Lovat said that he did not land like a prince), the prisoner sent a letter to the Frasers to join his son, the Master of Lovat, who was then at home, and that a muster-roll of the men was taken by Lord Lovat himself. That the prisoner received a letter from the Lord President, to dissuade him from going into the rebellion, and that in an answer he excused himself, laying the blame on his son, alleging that he was not the first who had an undutiful child. That the Master of Lovat accidentally getting a sight of such letter, cried out, "Good God! how have I deserved that character!—By God, I'll go and put the saddle on the right horse." That Lord Lovat was not by, and that the young gentleman's parental affection soon getting the better of his resentment, the affair dropped.—That Lord Lovat's name was made use of to induce the Frasers to join the Pretender, and that he appointed them a rendezvous, and furnished them with tents, arms, colours, &c.—That they rendezvoused twice, once about the

the middle, and once about the latter end of August, near Lord Lovat's house; and that at the last meeting his lordship gave them gunpowder and cockades, as marks of their being in the Pretender's service.—That after the battle of Preston-pans, flags were given to his men.—That Lord Lovat, in a letter to the Pretender's son, then at the head of his party, laments his great age and infirmities, which prevented his doing him personal service; and acquaints him that, as a proof of his zeal in the cause, he had sent his eldest son, who was the darling of his life.—That Lord Lovat had several meetings with the rebel chiefs who were actually in arms, particularly Murray of Barrisdale, and that they sometimes spoke Ersk, and sometimes French.—That the Lord Lovat distributed money for raising men. That this witness received a commission October 18, 1744, from the hands of Mr. Drummond's lady, then in France, with orders to give it to Lord Lovat only; that he read it, and took a copy of it, but had it not to produce. That the prisoner complained the government had not used him well in taking away the command of an independent company, and expressed great resentment on that account. This witness having gone through his evidence, and Lord Lovat being asked if he would put any questions to him, declined it, by saying he was not able to ask him any questions, but that what he said would not find credit in an assembly of footmen.

Tuesday the 10th.—Second Day.

This day was spent in disputing a point of law, whether J. Murray of Broughton, Esq. produced by the managers, was a competent witness. The counsel for Lord Lovat insisting that he was an attainted person, the Attorney General, and other managers, cited the record and several precedents to prove that he was a competent witness. Lord Lovat's counsel objected to the record being read, and the peers returning to their house, and determining that it might, they next offered to falsify it, by proving that said Murray did not surrender, but was taken

ken prisoner; but this the lords, returning to their house, determined could not be admitted.

Lord Lovat, during this affair, uttered some passionate expressions, and was admonished by the Lord High Steward.

Wednesday the 11th.—Third Day.

Secretary Murray was sworn, who gave an account of the rise and progress of the rebellion, with the minutest circumstances, especially of an intended invasion in 1743, and the meeting of several persons in many parts, at which Lord Lovat was present, and money subscribed; he also read some names of gentlemen whom the Earl of Traquair had told him he had conversed with, and had hopes of assistance from them. That the witness himself had been employed as an agent in the rebellion, and as such went over to France, to solicit troops to land in England and Scotland, and that he carried over to the Pretender, an association of several Scotch gentlemen, of whom Lord Lovat was one, and a letter from the said lord containing repeated assurances of his zeal in the cause.

Fraser, of Dunballoc, proved that Lord Lovat took part in the rebellion, by sending out his clan under command of his son.

John Riddall, the prisoner's groom, who was in the battle of Culloden, and soon after surrendered, and William Walker, another of his servants, gave evidence to the same effect.

Then Lord Lovat signified that he was very infirm, that he had two fainting fits the day before, was obliged to get up at three or four o'clock in the morning, and begged one day's respite, which was granted him.

Friday the 13th.—Fourth Day.

Thomas Fraser deposed, that he was employed by Lord Lovat's chamberlain to mend old colours and camp colours, that he painted several bell tents to hold arms, which had Lord Lovat's crest upon them, and confirmed other points before mentioned.

Hugh Fraser, Lord Lovat's secretary, confirmed the former evidence in several particulars, and deposed further, that when news came of the battle of Preston Pans, his lordship said, "it was such a victory as could not be paralleled in history." That he was sent by Lord Lovat to the Pretender's son, then at Holyrood-house, to assure him of his zeal for his interest, and acquaint him that he had sent his son at the head of his clan in order to join him, with which the Pretender's son declared himself satisfied; and secretary Murray, by his orders, gave the witness a letter for Lord Lovat unsealed, purporting, among other things, that they were preparing to march into England, and desiring the Frasers might meet and join them about Moffet or Carlisle; which letter this witness delivered accordingly, acquainting Lord Lovat, at the same time, that there were twenty one battalions of English troops landed from Flanders, and two regiments from Ireland, and that the Dutch auxiliaries were expected, all which would be too strong for them; his lordship replied, that he had gone too far to go back, and forbid the witness to mention these particulars to his son. That about six or seven companies of the Frasers having marched to join the rebels, all came back except twenty-five, being countermanded by Lord Lovat, who had wrote to the Lord President to know what would be the consequence of his headstrong son's having entered into the rebellion, and received for answer that his person would be seized, and his conduct inquired into; of this his lordship immediately informed his son, and proposed his going directly to Holland; but that the next day, when in company with his son and two other gentlemen, he declared it was all a bugbear, and advised his son to proceed, and join the rebels with his whole clan. That upon this the master of Lovat burst into tears, saying he had been made a fool and tool from first to last, undoing one day what he did another; but that he was now determined to march, let the consequence be what it would. That he believes, from his knowledge of the master of Lovat's good sense and avowed principles, that he would not have gone into the rebellion but for his father's influence, and that he had often heard him declare as much. That the

the Frasers marched to Stirling, and that some of the arms brought from France were by order delivered to them. That the witness carried a large packet, without direction, from secretary Murray to the master of Lovat, containing a commission of lieutenant-general for Lord Lovat, another of lord lieutenancy, and another of colonel to one of the name of Fraser, all signed and sealed by the Pretender. That the reason why Murray did not direct the said packet was, that he did not know whether to address it to Lord Lovat, or Duke Fraser; and that he saw a letter from the young Pretender to his lordship, desiring him to join them in person.

Lieut. Alexander Campbell deposed, that, going to Lord Lovat's seat in October, 1745, to treat with him for cattle, his lordship said his son was in the rebellion, but that himself was a loyal subject.

Peter Fraser deposed, that he believed the master of Lovat could not have carried the clan into the rebellion without his father.

John Farquhar, servant to secretary Murray, deposed, that the Lord Lovat met several gentlemen after the battle of Culloden, to consider how the remainder of the rebels could be got together. That Lord Lovat embraced several of Lochiel's officers, and declared that, if they could collect a body of seven or eight thousand honest Highlanders, they should yet be able to beat the elector of Hanover's troops, and that he wished to God he had joined the prince regent when he first came over. That some French money had been landed and distributed to the rebels, to get them together again; and they then resolved to march south for Edinburgh, and expected French forces to land.

Charles Stuart deposed, that after the battle of Culloden there was a meeting of several rebel chiefs, Lord Lovat being present in a little hut at Morlay. That Murray there proposed to draw up articles of surrender to the Duke of Cumberland, and if not accepted, to stand out in a body to the last; but Lord Lovat would not sign them, declaring he was a neutral person. That seventy or eighty pounds were given by Murray out of the principal treasury, and part of thirty-five thousand louis d'ors was

sent to the master of Lovat to pay them, and that he himself had given money to several of the rebel chiefs, but Lord Lovat accepted none. That he saw Roy Stuart at Boulogne in 1736, who told him he was then going to Rome, with letters of recommendation from Lord Lovat.

Lieut. Robert Dalrymple deposed, that dining and supping several times with Lord Lovat when prisoner on board the Furnace, he had heard him say, that the rebel army might have laughed at the king's troops; that they had no business to fight, but should have retired to the mountains, where the Duke of Cumberland's horse could not follow them: that whenever he mentioned the young Pretender, he called him his prince.

David Campbell deposed, that he was on board the Furnace the morning that Lord Lovat was taken, and present at the opening of his strong box, in which was found, among other papers, a letter from the master of Lovat to his lordship, relating to the rebel army: that he told his lordship he believed it would have been better for him if that letter had not been in the box; to which he answered, it would so. That he declared his only motive to go into the rebellion, was the ministry's taking his company from him.

Sir Everard Fawkener deposed, that he visited the Lord Lovat, when a prisoner at Inverness, by order of the Duke of Cumberland: that his lordship then talked much of the services he had done the government in 1715, and the favours he had received from his late majesty; that he spoke with great resentment against marshal Wade, as the person who deprived him of his free company, and declared that, in his opinion, such usage was sufficient to justify him in joining Thamas Kouli Khan, if he had landed here: but added, that, if the government would spare his life and estate, he would exert all his powers (perhaps not inconsiderable) in its service.

Robert Fraser (a former witness) proved several treasonable letters to be signed by Lord Lovat, which were sent to the young Pretender, secretary Murray, the laird of Lochiel, and the marquis of Tullibardine, styled duke of Athol, which letters were read.

Captain Duff proved that the letter from the master of

of Lovat to the prisoner, mentioned above, was taken out of the strong box in the prisoner's presence. Adjourned to Monday.

Monday the 16th.—Fifth Day.

The managers produced Robert Fraser again, who proved Lord Lovat's signing a letter sent by him to his son, relating to the entertainment of the young Pretender, whom he expected to call at his house; and also his letter to the Duke of Cumberland, after taken prisoner.

Secretary Murray affirmed the receipt of Lord Lovat's letter by him, and a letter all written with the young Pretender's own hand to Lord Lovat desiring him immediately to join him.

The evidence for the crown being closed, it was summed up by Sir John Strange; and the lord steward then informed the prisoner that he might begin his defence. But his lordship replying that he was not ready, and praying four or five days to prepare himself, and that Norman Macleod, Esq. (a relation of his, and member of the House of Commons,) might be permitted to give evidence in his behalf; the lords adjourned to the upper chamber, and sent a message to the commons, acquainting them with Lord Lovat's request to examine Mr. Macleod, with leave to be examined as a witness.

Wednesday the 18th.—Sixth Day.

The lord steward directed the prisoner to proceed in his defence; whereupon he said he had often told their lordships that he was eighty years old, full of infirmities and pains, and therefore unable to examine witnesses himself; but that he had put his thoughts loosely into writing that morning, desiring the same might be read by the clerk, which was done accordingly, being in substance as follows: That it would be impossible for him to manifest his innocence to their lordships, unless he could have those witnesses from Scotland, which, by their lordship's order, were summoned to attend. That the
allowing

allowing infamous and attainted persons to give evidence, such as secretary Murray, and his own secretary, (against whom he exclaimed in the bitterest terms,) was a dangerous precedent. That he hoped their lordships would enforce their order to bring up his witnesses; and till then he submits his life, and all that is dear to him, to their lordship's honour. He was then again directed to proceed to his defence; but he declining to enter upon it till all his witnesses were come from Scotland, the managers declared that this, and this only, was the time for the prisoner to make his defence, and that the subject of his request was unprecedented, and could not be complied with.—And upon this the solicitor-general was heard in reply.

Lord Lovat then offered to call two persons to prove, that many of his witnesses were threatened with imprisonment, if they offered to go to London on his behalf, and others were driven to the hills: and the attorney-general and Mr. Noel's objection to this being heard, the House of Peers adjourned to the chamber of parliament, where the journal for March 16, 1715, on the Earl of Wintoun's trial was read, and the House agreeing to go down again and pass judgment on Lord Lovat, the lords spiritual delivered their usual protestation, and withdrew. Then being returned to Westminster Hall, and the prisoner taken from the bar, the lord high-steward put the question to every peer, beginning with the junior, Whether Simon Lord Lovat was guilty of all the charges of high treason brought against him? and thereupon every one, putting his hand upon his left breast, answered, Guilty, upon my honour. He was then again set to the bar, and acquainted by the lord high-steward, that his peers had unanimously found him guilty; on which the lords adjourned to their House.

Thursday the 19th.—Seventh Day.

The speaker with his mace went to the bar of the House of Lords, and in the name of all the Commons of England, demanded judgment against Simon Lord Lovat, for high treason.

Then

Then the lords adjourned to Westminster Hall, and the prisoner being brought to the bar, was asked if he had any thing to offer why judgment of death should not be pronounced against him; to which he answered, he had not.

His Grace, then proceeding to judgment, addressed himself to the unhappy lord at the bar in a pathetic speech. As he had observed on a like melancholy occasion, that the ordinary course of his majesty's laws was strong enough to bring even the chiefs of the rebels to justice, his Grace took this opportunity to observe, "That the Commons of England, having found the noble prisoner at the bar to be one of the principal conspirators who contrived and carried on the late detestable rebellion, they rightly judged that this, which is the common cause, ought to be prosecuted by the united voice of the people. That it became them in full parliament, to lay open the source of our late calamities, and the deep-laid, long-meditated scheme, in which his lordship had so considerable and flagitious a part."

After touching on the principal parts of the evidence, in order as they rose, observing that the proof resulting from thence was more particular and perfect than common, or in the nature of such things ordinarily to be expected; his Grace takes occasion to deplore the "remains of barbarism, which have hitherto subsisted in the remoter parts of this civilized, well-governed island, by which the common people are kept in a state of the most servile bondage to certain of their fellow-subjects, who, contrary to all law, have erected themselves into petty tyrants, and in the present instance have been able to compel them into a rebellion, against their lawful sovereign, under peril of fire and sword." His Grace proceeds to the last act of his high office, by observing among other instances of the prisoner's craft, dissimulation, and want of private, as well as public virtue, that it had appeared he used his parental influence over his eldest son, a youth not above nineteen years of age, to compel him into the rebellion, and afterwards unnaturally endeavoured to cast the crime and reproach upon him; which, if true, is an "impiety that makes one tremble; adding the celebrated saying

saying of a wise author of antiquity, " That the love of
" our country includes all other social affections, which
" (says his Grace) shews his perfect knowledge of human
" nature ; for we see, when that is gone, even the ten-
" derest of all affections, the parental, may be extin-
" guished with it."

After sentence was pronounced, the lord steward standing up broke his staff, and declared his commission void. Then Lord Lovat desired the lords to recommend him to his majesty's mercy, and said to the managers of the Commons, " I hope as ye are stout, ye will be merciful ;" and going from the bar, said, " God bless you all, I wish you an everlasting farewell, for we shall never meet again in this place."

That the private and public character already given of Lord Lovat is in general true will appear from a memorable speech of the Lord Belhaven, in the last Parliament held at Edinburgh, in November, 1706, against the then projected union of the two kingdoms: his lordship speaking of this nobleman, then captain Fraser, on occasion of the Scots' plot, commonly called Fraser's plot, says, " That he deserved, if practicable, to have been hanged five several times, in five different places, and upon five different accounts at least ; as having been notoriously a traitor to the court of St. James's, a traitor to the court of St. Germain's, a traitor to the court of Versailles, and a traitor to his own country of Scotland ; in being not only an avowed and restless enemy to the peace and quiet of its established government and constitution, both in church and state, but likewise a vile proteus apostate, backward and forward, and a seducer of others in point of religion, as the tide or wind changed : and moreover, that (abstracted from all those his multiplied acts of treason, abroad and at home) he deserved to be hanged as a condemned criminal, out-law, and fugitive, for the barbarous, cruel, and most flagitious rape, he had, with the assistance of some of his vile and abominable band of associated ruffians, violently committed on the body of a right honourable and virtuous lady, the widow of the late Lord Lovat, and sister of his Grace the late Duke of Athol. Nay, so hardened was Captain Fraser
become

become in wickedness, that he audaciously erected a gallows, and threatened to hang thereon one of the said lady's brothers, and some other gentleman of quality, who accompanied him, in going to rescue him out of that criminal's cruel hands."

His lordship married three wives; the first was the lady dowager Lovat; the second a daughter of the Laird of Grant, sister to Sir Lodovic Grant, Bart. by whom he had issue two sons and two daughters; the third a near relation to the noble family of Argyle, by whom he had also a son named Archibald; but he used this lady so ill, that her friends interposing, a separation took place. In 1740 he married his eldest daughter to the Laird of Cluny, chief of the clan of the M'Phersons, probably with a view to strengthen his interest, and enable him the more effectually to put his long meditated design in execution; since he might certainly have found a son-in-law much superior in every respect, except in numbers of men fit for service.

He was very assiduous to inculcate, on all occasions, that an absolute obedience was due from the clans to their lords, and that his resentment of any injury sufficiently justified them in revenging it, whether right or wrong: that this was their opinion, however depraved, will appear from the following instance. At a meeting of the freeholders and collectors of the land-tax, at the court-house at Inverness, in the year 1744, for the choice of the collector of the cess or land-tax, where were present Lord Lovat, Lord President, Lord Fortrose, and the Laird of M'Leod; on some dispute between the Lords Lovat and Fortrose, the former was so provoked as to give the other the lie; upon which the latter struck the other a blow on his face with his fist; which his lordship, notwithstanding his great age, returned with several strokes of his cane; the other gentlemen interposing, they were parted. One Fraser, of Foyer, afterwards in the rebellion, being in the gallery, and seeing the indignity that was offered to his chief, jumped suddenly into the court, and presented his pistol to Lord Fortrose's face: Lord President threw himself between them, which so irritated Foyer that he would have shot him, or Lord Fortrose,

Fortrose, or both of them ; but was prevented by a gentleman standing by, who nimbly threw his plaid over the pistol, which prevented the threatened mischief. Weapons of all sorts were immediately drawn on both sides, and a bloody skirmish was like to ensue. To prevent which, Lord President and Mr. M'Leod prevailed on Lord Fortrose to go with them out of the court-house into the street, where another of the Lovat clan, having heard how his chief had been affronted, rushed suddenly on Lord Fortrose, and as he was walking between Lord President, and Mr. M'Leod, knocked him down with a long stick. Both parties being prodigiously irritated with these reciprocal insults, dangerous consequences, it was feared, would ensue, from resentments carried to extremities between the Frasers and M'Kenzies, two powerful and neighbouring clans ; but the Lord President and other friends interposing, the parties were at length reconciled.

Not long after the battle of Preston Pans, eight hundred of the Frasers being assembled and armed, were sent to join the rebels at Perth, but his lordship, to conceal their real design, gave out that a large number of his cattle were stolen and carried off by a party of robbers, and that there was certain information brought in that the thieves were driving them southwards. Whereupon the master of Lovat was detached after them at the head of the above-mentioned body of Frasers ; but using to little caution in their march, they were intercepted by a party of the rebels, and forced to take on with them.

About this time he wrote many letters to the young Pretender and others, which not only manifested his zeal in the cause, but the cunning, vanity, and self-interestedness, which constituted his character.

In these letters his lordship displayed in an ostentatious manner his zeal for the Pretender's cause, magnified his own services in it, extolled the bravery and fidelity of his clan ; exhorted his son to behave gallantly, for if he should fail of success, he had committed treasons enough to hang thirty peers and one hundred commoners, &c.

In answer to his son, who had invited the young Pretender

tender to visit his lordship, and see the agreeable diversion of catching a salmon with a rod and line, he remarked "that such interview would not be at all convenient; and for his childish whim of fishing, Cumberland, he heard, was upon his march, and would soon drive all such fancies as that out of his head."

The day fixed for his execution, he waked about three in the morning, and was heard to pray with great devotion: at five he rose, called for a glass of wine and water as usual, appeared cheerful, sat and read till seven, and then drank another glass of wine and water; at eight he desired his wig might be sent that the barber might have time to comb it out genteelly, and provided himself with a purse to hold the money which he intended for the executioner.

At about half an hour after nine his lordship eat very heartily of minced veal, ordering coffee and chocolate for his friends, whose healths he drank in wine and water.

About eleven the sheriffs sent to demand his body, upon which he desired the gentlemen would retire for a few moments, while he said a prayer, and this being immediately complied with, he presently called for them again, saying, I am ready.

At the bottom of the first pair of stairs, General Williamson invited him into his rooms to rest himself, which he accepted, and on his entrance paid his respects to the company politely, and talked freely: He desired of the general, in French, that he might take leave of his lady, and thank her for her civilities: But the general told his lordship in the same language, that she was too much affected with his lordship's misfortunes to bear the shock of seeing him, and, therefore, hoped his lordship would excuse her. He then took his leave and proceeded; at the door he bowed to the spectators, and was conveyed from thence to the outward gate in the governor's coach, where he was delivered to the sheriffs, who conducted him in another coach to the house (hired for the two former lords) near the scaffold, in which was a room lined with black cloth, and hung with sconces for his reception.

His friends were at first denied entrance, but upon application made by his lordship to the sheriffs for their admittance,

mittance, it was granted. Soon after his lordship addressing himself to the sheriffs, thanked them for the favour, and taking a paper out of his pocket, delivered it to one of them, saying he should make no speech, and that they might give the word of command when they pleased.

A gentleman present beginning to read a prayer to his lordship while he was sitting, he called one of the warders to help him up, that he might kneel: He then prayed silently a short time, and was afterwards set again in his chair; being asked by one of the sheriffs if he would refresh himself with a glass of wine, he declined it, because no warm water could be had to mix with it, and took a little burnt brandy and bitters in its stead.

He desired that his clothes might be delivered to his friends with his corpse, and said that for that reason he should give the executioner ten guineas.

He also desired of the sheriffs that his head might be received in a cloth, and put into the coffin, which the sheriffs, after conferring with some gentleman present, promised should be done; and that the holding up the head at the corners of the scaffold should be dispensed with, as it had been of late years at the execution of lords, they having no written order to the contrary, in the warrant, and without, it might be liable to censure.

When his lordship was going up the steps to the scaffold, assisted by two warders, he looked round, and seeing so great a concourse of people, "God save us," says he, "why should there be such a bustle about taking off an old grey head, that cannot get up three steps without three bodies to support it."

Turning about, and observing one of his friends much dejected, he clapped him on the shoulder, saying, "Cheer up thy heart, man, I am not afraid, why should you?"

As soon as he came upon the scaffold, he asked for the executioner, and presented him with ten guineas in a purse; then desiring to see the axe, he felt the edge, and said, "he believed it would do."

Soon after he rose from the chair, which was placed for him, and looked at his coffin, on which was written, "SIMON DOMINUS FRASER *de* LOVAT, *Decollat.* April
"9, 1747, *Ætat. suæ* 80."

He

He then sat down again, and repeated from Horace,

“ Dulce et decorum pro patria mori.” *

and afterwards from Ovid,

“ Nam genus et proavos, et quæ non fecimus ipsi,

“ Vix ea nostra voco”——

He then desired all the people to stand off, except his two warders, who supported his lordship while he said a prayer ; after which he called his solicitor and agent in Scotland, Mr. W. Fraser, and presenting his gold-headed cane, said, “ I deliver you this cane in token of my sense of your faithful services, and of my committing to you all the power I have upon earth,” and then embraced him. He also called for Mr. James Fraser, and said, “ My dear James, I am going to heaven, but you must continue to crawl a little longer in this evil world.” And taking leave of both, he delivered his hat, wig, and clothes, to Mr. William Fraser, and desired him to see that the executioner did not touch them : He ordered his cap to be put on, and unloosing his neckcloth and the collar of his shirt, he kneeled down at the block, and pulled the cloth which was to receive his head close to him.

But being placed too near the block, the executioner desired him to remove a little further back, which, with the warder's assistance, was immediately done, and his neck being properly placed, he told the executioner he would say a short prayer, and then give the signal by dropping his handkerchief. In this posture he remained about half a minute, and then throwing his handkerchief on the floor, the executioner, at one blow, severed his head from his body, which was received in the cloth, and together with his body put into the coffin, and carried in a

* These ejaculations being told to a gentleman, he replied instantly, to the first,

“ With justice may Lovat this adage apply,

“ For the good of their country ALL criminals die.”

To the second.——

“ Thine alone is the honour of all thou hast done ;

“ Such father no honour transmits to a son.”

hearse

hearse back to the Tower, where it remained till four o'clock, and was then taken away by an undertaker, in order to be sent to Scotland, and deposited in his own tomb in the church of Kirkill; * but leave not being given, as was expected, it was again brought back to the Tower, and interred near the bodies of the other lords.

His lordship professed himself a Papist, and at his request was attended by Mr. Baker, belonging to the Sardinian ambassador, and though he insisted much on the services he had done the present royal family, in 1715, yet he declared, but a few days before his death, that he had been concerned in all the schemes formed for restoring the house of Stuart, since he was fifteen years old.

His intellectual powers seem to have been considerable, and his learning extensive; he spoke the Latin, French, and English fluently, and other modern languages intelligibly. He studied at Aberdeen, and disputed his philosophy in Greek, and though he was educated a Protestant, yet, after three years study of divinity and controversy, turned Papist.

He maintained an appearance of that facetious disposition for which he was remarkable, to the last; and seems to have taken great pains to quit the stage, not only with decency, but with that dignity which is thought to distinguish the good conscience, and the noble mind.

But it may be remarked, on this occasion, that as dying is an event of infinite moment, and its issue at best uncertain, nothing can be more incongruous and absurd than to treat it with levity, negligence, or presumption.

As the review of a life in which virtue has been an active, growing, and governing principle, can alone enable human nature to meet its dissolution with a rational fortitude, and render a serene and cheerful deportment in the last awful moments, beautiful and becoming; so an air of intrepidity, and a forced pleasantness, at the hour of death, in a person whose life has been remarkable for

* He had made a codicil to his will, where all the pipers, from Jonie Groat's house to Edinburgh, were invited to play before his corpse, for which they were to have a handsome allowance, and though he did not expect this to be complied with, yet he said he was sure that the good old women of his country would sing a Coronach before him.

the most daring and flagitious enormities, instead of reflecting any new honour upon him, renders him yet more odious and contemptible, as such a conduct can proceed only from insolence, ignorance, or insensibility.

Let us not, therefore, be deceived by specious appearances, or dazzled with a false lustre : Let us not judge of the man, or the cause in which he dies, by the manner of his dying ; but rather censure, or approve, his dying behaviour, by comparing it with the general tenor of his life, and then only yield our approbation to the appearances of fortitude, serenity, and cheerfulness, when his mortal conduct seems to afford him such a prospect of eternity, as may fill his heart with corresponding sentiments, and inspire him with such a hope of heaven as is consistent with knowledge, reason, and humility.

We have already observed, that Lord Lovat was an extraordinary man—he was truly so in every meaning of the word, and some particulars, therefore, of such a character, carefully gleaned from the publications of the time in which he suffered, cannot prove unacceptable to our readers.

His person was very large, and he greatly added to his unweildy appearance, by wearing a number of garments, one over the other, like a Dutchman. He was tall, walked very upright, considering his great age, and was tolerably well-shaped ; he had a large mouth and short nose, with eyes very much contracted and down-looking, a very small forehead, almost all covered with a large periwig ; this gave him a grim aspect, but upon addressing any one, he put on a smiling countenance ; he was near-sighted, and affected to be much more so than he really was ; he was naturally of a robust constitution, and a strong body, hardened by fatigue, inured to hunger and thirst, heat and cold, and improved by exercise ; but his long confinement in the Bastile had greatly impaired him ; however, he still preserved a degree of health and vigour very uncommon at so advanced an age. He was a man of some learning, great parts and abilities : His great experience and attention to political matters had made him acquainted with men as well as books ; he was polite, affable, and agreeable in conversation, and so great a master

ter in flattery and dissimulation, that he generally gained the good will, if not the esteem, of those he conversed with, however prejudiced they might have been against him : His knowledge of the history and genealogy of the great families in Scotland contributed not a little to this, for there was no person in that country, but he would make out to be a relation or ally of some noble or ancient family : in this traditional history he paid little regard to truth, provided he could give his story the air of probability ; he seemed to entertain his guests with the utmost cheerfulness and hospitality, but being sordidly avaricious, he grumbled privately at the least expense, and though to their faces he caressed them, yet no sooner had they turned their backs, than he cursed them for the trouble and expense they had put him to. He was ambitious and proud, but when it served his turn, mean and fawning. He was subtle, but sometimes unguarded in his speeches and actions, and that even in matters of great concern ; by these means he had frequently involved himself in dangers and difficulties ; but he was very fertile in expedients, and had almost always extricated himself out of such scrapes. His restless and active disposition drew him into snares, but a ready invention, and a bold and speedy execution, helped him out of them. He was much addicted to enthusiasm and superstitious notions, by which he was greatly governed in many cases. In business he was unconscionable, and avowed, that his own profit or pleasure had always been the rule of his actions ; this had led him to violence, rapes, cruelty, revenge, treachery, and every infamous practice, when it suited his purpose ; this had made him put himself into all shapes and appearances, and therefore rendered him detested and despised by all good men, dreaded by some, and scorned and derided by others. He was naturally brave and resolute, and though, as to invisible powers, he was fearful, and, as to his health, and the less accidents of life, scrupulous to pusillanimity, yet in imminent danger he was undaunted : He was amorous, but for many years past had been very cautious in respect of women of rank, being sensible that intrigues of that sort are often attended with disagreeable consequences ; he therefore made his
addresses

addressed to the lowest and meanest of the female sex, and by that means tasted all the sweets of love without any allay; besides, his absolute sway over them saved him the trouble of a long courtship. In short, he was a cruel master, an imperious husband, a tyrannical parent, a treacherous friend, and an arbitrary chief.

Just before he came out of the Tower, a scaffolding, near the Ship ale-house, Barking-alley, built from that house in many stories, with near one thousand persons on it, suddenly fell down, by which eight or ten were killed on the spot, and numbers had their arms, ribs, and legs broken. Ten more died of their wounds next day, in the London Infirmary and St. Thomas's Hospital; among whom was the carpenter that erected the scaffold, and his wife, who were selling liquor to the populace underneath it at the time it fell. Thus was the death of this man, whose life had been a scene of tyranny, and perfidious duplicity, the accidental occasion of injuring many others.

Lord Lovat was executed on the 9th of April, 1747.

The following applicable Lines appeared soon after the Death of Lord Lovat:

“Pity'd by gentle minds, Kilmarnock dy'd;
 “The brave, Balmerino, were on thy side;
 “Ratcliffe, unhappy in his crimes of youth,
 “Steady in what he still mistook for truth,
 “Beheld his death so decently unmov'd,
 “The soft lamented, and the brave approv'd,
 “But Lovat's end indiff'rently we view,
 “True to no king, to no religion true;
 “No fair forgets the ruin he has done;
 “No child laments the tyrant of his son;
 “No tory pities, thinking what he was;
 “No whig compassions, for he left the cause;
 “The brave regret not, for he was not brave;
 “The honest mourn not, knowing him a knave.”

*FRANCIS TOWNLEY,**The Rebel Colonel of their Manchester Regiment,*

WAS indicted at the sessions held at St. Margaret's Hall, for the part he had acted in the rebellion. His counsel insisted that he was not a subject of Great Britain, being an officer in the service of the French king; but this the judges observed was a circumstance against him, as he had quitted his native country, and engaged in the French service, without the consent of his lawful sovereign. Some other motions, equally frivolous, being overruled, he was capitally convicted, and adjudged to die.

Colonel Townley was the son of — Townley, Esq; of Townley-Hall in Lancashire, who was tried for the share he had in the rebellion of 1715, but acquitted.

Young Mr. Townley being educated in the rigid principles of popery, went abroad early life, and entering into the service of France, distinguished himself in the military line, particularly at the siege of Phillipsbourg.

Coming to England in 1742, he associated chiefly with those of the Catholic religion; and it was thought that he induced many of them to take an active part in the rebellion. When the Pretender came to Manchester, Townley offered his services: which being accepted, he was commissioned to raise a regiment, which he soon completed; but being made a prisoner at Carlisle, he was conducted to London.

After conviction he behaved in the most reserved manner, scarcely speaking to any one but his brethren in misfortune.

John Barkwick, formerly a linen-draper of Manchester, but afterwards a lieutenant, was the next person tried and convicted. This man was distinguished by living elegantly in prison; and it was remarked that the prisoners in general were amply supplied with the necessaries of life, by the bounty of their friends. It is asserted that they expected to be treated as prisoners of war; but it is not credible that they could be so totally ignorant of the law of nations, or their duty as subjects.

James

James Dawson, a native of Lancashire, was genteelly born, and liberally educated at St. John's College, in Cambridge. After leaving the University he repaired to Manchester, where the Pretender gave him a captain's commission. Dawson had paid his addresses to a young lady, to whom he was to have been married immediately after his enlargement, if the solicitations that were made for his pardon had been attended with the desired effect.

The circumstance of his love, and the melancholy that was produced by his death, is so admirably touched in the following ballad of Shenstone, that Dawson's story will probably be remembered and regretted when that of the rest of the rebels will be forgotten. A man must have lost all feeling who can read this beautiful ballad, equally remarkable for its elegance, its simplicity, and its truth, and remain unaffected.

JEMMY DAWSON, A BALLAD.

COME listen to my mournful tale,
 Ye tender hearts and lovers dear ;
 Nor will you scorn to heave a sigh,
 Nor will you blush to shed a tear.

And thou, dear Kitty, peerless maid,
 Do thou a pensive ear incline,
 For thou canst weep at ev'ry woe,
 And pity ev'ry plaint but mine.

Young Dawson was a gallant youth,
 A brighter never trod the plain ;
 And well he lov'd one charming maid,
 And dearly was he lov'd again.

One tender maid she lov'd him dear,
 Of gentle blood the damsel came,
 And faultless was her beauteous form,
 And spotless was her virgin fame.

But curse on party's hateful strife,
 That led the faithful youth astray,
 The day the rebel clans appear'd :
 Oh had he never seen that day !

Their colours and their sash he wore,
 And in their fatal dress was found ;
 And now he must that death endure,
 Which gives the brave the keenest wound.

How pale was then his true-love's cheek,
 When Jemmy's sentence reach'd her ear ?
 For never yet did Alpine snows,
 So pale, nor yet so chill appear.

Yet might sweet mercy find a place,
 And bring relief to Jemmy's woes,
 O George ! without a pray'r for thee,
 My orisons should never close.

The gracious prince that gives him life,
 Would crown a never-dying flame,
 And ev'ry tender babe I bore,
 Should learn to lisp the giver's name.

But though, dear youth, thou should'st be dragg'd
 To yonder ignominious tree,
 Thou shalt not want a faithful friend,
 To share thy bitter fate with thee.

O then her mourning coach was call'd ;
 The sledge mov'd slowly on before ;
 Though borne in a triumphal car,
 She had not lov'd her fav'rite more.

She follow'd him, prepar'd to view.
 The terrible behests of law ;
 And the last scene of Jemmy's woes,
 With calm and steadfast eyes she saw.

Distorted was that blooming face,
 Which she had fondly lov'd so long ;
 And stifled was that tuneful breath,
 Which in her praise had sweetly sung :

And sever'd was that beauteous neck,
 Round which her arms had fondly clos'd ;
 And mangled was that beauteous breast,
 On which her love-sick head repos'd :

And ravish'd was that constant heart,
 She did to ev'ry heart prefer ?
 For though it could his king forget,
 'Twas true and loyal still to her.

Amidst those unrelenting flames,
 She bore this constant heart to see ;
 But when 'twas moulder'd into dust,
 Yet, yet, she cry'd, I'll follow thee.

My death, my death, can only shew,
The pure and lasting love I bore;
Accept, O Heav'n! of woes like ours,
And let us, let us weep no more.

The dismal scene was o'er and past,
The lover's mournful hearse retir'd;
The maid drew back her languid head,
And, sighing forth his name, expir'd.

Tho' Justice ever must prevail,
The tear my Kitty sheds is due:
For seldom shall we hear a tale,
So sad, so tender, and so true.

Another of the parties tried on this occasion was George Fletcher, who had been a linen-draper at Stratford near Manchester, managing the business for his mother, who, on her knees, persuaded him not to engage with the rebels; and offered him 1000*l.* on the condition that he would not embark in so desperate an enterprize; but he was deaf to her entreaties, and so ambitious of serving the Pretender, that he gave his secretary, Mr. Murray, fifty pounds for a captain's commission. Fletcher having induced one Maddox to enlist, the man would have deserted, but he produced a handful of gold, and said he should not want money if he would fight for the Pretender; which induced Maddox to keep his station.

Thomas Syddall was a barber at Manchester, and had supported a wife and five children in a creditable way, till the rebels troops arrived at that place. His father was hanged at Manchester, for his concern in the rebellion of 1715, and his head had remained on the market-cross till the year 1745, when it was taken down on the arrival of the Pretender. Syddall, who was a rigid Roman Catholic, now vowed revenge against the Protestants, with a view to accomplish which he obtained an ensign's commission from the Pretender's secretary.

The attachment of this man to the Pretender was so extraordinary, that almost in the last moment of his life, he prayed that his children might be ready to assert the same at the hazard of their lives.

Thomas

Thomas Chadwick was tried immediately after Syddall. He was a tallow-chandler, but had not long followed business; for, associating with persons of Jacobitical principles, he accepted the commission of lieutenant in the Pretender's service; and he was tried for, and convicted of acting in that capacity. Chadwick appeared to have great resolution; and told his friends that death, in any shape, had no terrors for him: but his courage forsook him, and he seemed greatly agitated on taking leave of his father the night before his execution.

Thomas Deacon, the next person tried, was the son of a physician of eminence. His principles of loyalty being tainted by associating with Jacobites, he became zealous in the cause of the Pretender; and his zeal was rewarded by the commission of lieutenant-colonel in the Manchester regiment.

Mr. Deacon had declared his resolution of joining the rebels as soon as he heard they were in arms in Scotland; and when they arrived at Manchester, he became one of their number. His two brothers likewise embarked in this fatal business: and one of them was sentenced to die with him: but being only sixteen years of age, he was happy enough to obtain a pardon.

The next convict on this melancholy occasion was Andrew Blood, who had been steward to a gentleman in Yorkshire, of which county he was a native, and descended from a respectable family.

Quitting his service, he went to Manchester to join the rebels, and received a captain's commission. He pleaded guilty to the indictment, and received sentence with the utmost composure and resignation. The gentleman whom he had served as steward exerted his utmost influence to procure a pardon for him; but the culprit being told that all endeavours were fruitless, expressed the utmost unconcern, and said he was willing to become a martyr for the cause he had abetted; adding that he had prepared for death, having entertained no hope of pardon.

The next person brought to trial and conviction was David Morgan, Esq. of Monmouthshire. This man had been sent by his father to study law in the Temple; and practised

practised a short time as a counsellor : but his father dying, he went to reside on his estate in the country. He was distinguished by the haughtiness of his temper, and a disposition to quarrel with his neighbours and servants.

Having met the rebels at Manchester, he advised the Pretender to proceed immediately to London, assuring him that the whole force to oppose him did not exceed three thousand men. Had this advice been attended to, the rebellion might have been crushed much sooner than it was : for, no doubt, the people would have arisen as one man, to oppose the progress of the lawless insurgents.

The Pretender having granted Morgan a warrant to search the houses in Manchester for arms, he did this in the strictest manner, and threatened with exemplary punishment all those who opposed him.

A colonel's commission was offered him ; but he declined the acceptance of it, proposing rather to give his advice than his personal assistance. When the rebels marched to Derby, he quitted them ; but, being taken into custody, he was lodged in Chester castle, and thence conveyed to London : and conviction following commitment, he was sentenced to die with his associates.

After the sentence of the law was passed, the convicts declared that they had acted according to the dictates of their consciences, and would again act the same parts, if they were put to trial. When the keeper informed them that the following day was ordered for their execution, they expressed a resignation to the will of God, embraced each other, and took an affectionate leave of their friends.

On the following morning they breakfasted together, and having conversed till near eleven o'clock, were conveyed from the New Gaol, Southwark, to Kennington Common, on three sledges. The gibbet was surrounded by a party of the guards, and a block, and a pile of faggots, were placed near it. The faggots were set on fire while the proper officers were removing the malefactors from the sledges.

After near an hour employed in acts of devotion, these unhappy men, having delivered to the sheriffs some papers,

pers, expressive of their political sentiments, then underwent the sentence of the law. They had not hung above five minutes, when Townley was cut down, being yet alive, and his body being placed on the block, the executioner chopped off his head with a cleaver. His heart and bowels were then taken out, and thrown into the fire; and the other parts being separately treated in the same manner, the executioner cried out "God save King George!"

The bodies were quartered and delivered to the keeper of the New Gaol, who buried them: the heads of some of the parties were sent to Carlisle and Manchester, where they were exposed; but those of Townly and Fletcher were fixed on Temple-Bar, where they remained many years, till they fell down.

These victims to their rashness suffered on Kennington Common, on the 20th of July, 1746.

Three other persons suffered soon afterwards on the same spot, for similar offences; of which the following are such particulars as will be interesting to the reader.

Donald M'Donald had joined the Pretender soon after he came to Scotland, and had received a captain's commission. He was educated by an uncle, who told him he would tarnish the glory of his ancestors, who had been warmly attached to the cause, if he failed to act with courage.

M'Donald was ever foremost where danger presented itself: he was greatly distinguished at the battle of Preston Pans, and joined with Lord Nairn in taking possession of Perth; services that greatly recommended him to the Pretender.

This man was exceedingly assiduous to learn the art of war, and made himself of so much consequence as to be intrusted with the command of two thousand men. The Duke of Perth having ordered two men, who refused to enlist, to be shot, M'Donald complained to his uncle, who had likewise a command in the rebel army, of the injustice of this proceeding; but the uncle ordered the nephew into custody, and told him that he should be shot on the following day; and actually informed the Pretender of what had passed; but M'Donald was only reprimanded,
ed,

ed, and dismissed, on promise of more cautious behaviour in future.

After his commitment to prison, M'Donald frequently wished that he had been shot. Being advised to repent, he said it would be fruitless, and he had rather hear a tune on the sweet bagpipes that used to play before the army. He often told the keepers of the prison, that "if they would knock off his fetters, and give him a pair of bagpipes he would treat them with a highland dance."

He said, he thought the Pretender's service very honourable when he first engaged in it, which he would never have done if he had thought him so ill provided for the expedition. He likewise expressed the utmost resentment against the French king for not supplying them with succours.

James Nicholson had been educated in principles averse to those of the abettors of the house of Stuart, but had been fatally prevailed on to change his political sentiments by some Jacobites, who frequented a coffee-house which he kept at Leith with great reputation for a considerable time.

Having accepted a lieutenant's commission on the arrival of the rebels at Edinburgh, he proceeded with them as far as Derby; but when they returned to Carlisle, he was taken into custody, and sent with the other prisoners to London.

After conviction he was visited by his wife and children, which afforded a scene of distress that is not to be described. He now lamented the miseries that he had brought on his family; but his penitence came too late!

The county of Bamff, in Scotland, gave birth to Walter Ogilvie, who was brought up a Protestant, and taught the duty of allegiance to the illustrious house of Brunswick; but some of his associates having contaminated his principles, he went to Lord Lewis Gordon, and joined the division of rebels under his command.

Ogilvie's father represented to him the rashness and impracticability of the scheme in which he was about to engage; but the young man said he was persuaded of its justice; and that the Pretender had a right to his best services.

After conviction these unfortunate men behaved for some time with great indifference ; but on the nearer approach of death they grew more serious. On the morning of their execution, having been visited by some friends, they were drawn on a sledge to Kennington Common, where they were turned off as soon as their devotions were ended ; and after hanging about a quarter of an hour, they were cut down, their heads cut off, their bowels taken out and burnt, and their bodies conveyed to the New Gaol, Southwark, and on the following day they were interred in one grave, in the new burial ground belonging to the parish of Bloomsbury.

These unfortunate men suffered at Kennington Common, on the 22d of August, 1746.

Alexander M'Gruther, a lieutenant in the Duke of Perth's regiment, and who had been very active among the rebels, was condemned with the three parties above-mentioned, but he had the happiness to obtain a reprieve through the interest of his friends.

Many other of the prisoners tried and convicted in Surrey were reprieved, as proper objects of the royal mercy ; and the assizes for that county being ended, the Judges, who were furnished with a special commission, proceeded to Carlisle to try those confined in the castle of that city, the number of whom was no less than three hundred and seventy.

Orders were given that nineteen out of twenty of these should be transported, and only the twentieth man tried for his life ; and that the chance of trial should be determined by lot ; but many of them refused to accept these merciful terms.

Bills of indictment having been found against them, they were informed that counsel and solicitors would be allowed them without expense ; and were told that the clerk of the peace was commissioned to grant subpoenas for such witnesses as they thought might be of service to them. This being done, the Judges proceeded to York Castle, to try those there confined, and adjourned the assizes at Carlisle till the ninth of September, that the accused parties might have time to make a proper defence.

In

In the mean time seventy were condemned of those confined at York, the most remarkable of whom was John Hamilton, Esq. who had been appointed Governor of Carlisle, having joined the Pretender after the battle of Preston Pans. On the first of November, ten of the convicts were executed at York, and eleven more on the eighth of the same month ; and four were ordered to suffer on the fifteenth, but three of these were reprieved.

The Judges now returned to Carlisle, and as many of the witnesses on the behalf of the prisoners had come from Scotland, they refused to be sworn in the English manner, and at length they were sworn according to the custom of their own country.

Many of the prisoners pleaded guilty, and among those who stood the event of a trial, and were convicted, was a nonjuring clergyman named Cappock, who had preached to the rebels at Carlisle and Manchester.

No less than ninety-one persons received sentence of death at Carlisle, several of whom were people of fortune, who had abandoned their better prospects in life to take part in this desperate rebellion. Ten of them were hanged and quartered at Carlisle on the 18th of October, and ten more at Brampton, in Cumberland, on the 21st of the same month ; but a number of them were transported, and several received an unconditional pardon.

Five other of the rebels who had been tried in Surrey, suffered at Kennington Common, on the 28th of the month above-mentioned, one of whom at the place of execution drank a health to the Pretender.

In consequence of these convictions, many estates were forfeited to the crown ; but King George the Second ordered them to be sold, and the whole produce, above twenty years purchase, to be given to the orphans of those who had forfeited them. The rest was employed in establishing schools in the Highlands, and instructing the natives in useful arts,

TRIAL BY ORDEAL,

Of the Hindoos in the East ; by Ali Ibrahim Khan, and communicated by Warren Hastings, Esq. late Governor General of Bengal.

THIS kind of trial, described at large in the Comment on the Dherma Sastra, consists of nine forms :

The Balance, in which the accused party, after fasting a day, is weighed twice in six minutes ; and if he weighs more, or the balance breaks down, is pronounced guilty ; if less, innocent ; if exactly the same, he must be weighed a third time.

By fire, walking through a hole under ground, filled with burning wood.

By water, in which the party stands up to the navel, and diving, remains under it, holding the foot of a bra-min, till two arrows, shot to the greatest distance, can be gathered up.

By swallowing poison, or by taking a ring out of a pot, in which is the hooded snake called Nago.

By drinking Cosha, a water in which the images of the gods have been washed, and remaining unaffected with sickness fourteen days.

By chewing dry rice, and spitting it out dry, or stained with blood, both which are signs of guilt.

By thrusting the hand into hot oil, or handling hot iron.

By dipping into a pot for the figure of Justice in silver or clay, and bringing out either. Then follow crimes or cases requiring these ordeals. The author of this memoir saw a man tried at Benares, by the hot iron, unhurt ; but another man, tried by the hot oil, was burned and mulcted.

CHINESE PUNISHMENTS.

The Chinese code of penal laws is compiled in such a manner as to have a punishment appropriated for every crime.

The wisdom of the Chinese Legislature is no where more conspicuous than in its treatment of robbers, no person being doomed to suffer death for having merely de-
prived

prived another of some temporal property, provided he neither uses nor carries any offensive weapon. This sagacious edict renders robbery unfrequent; the daring violator of the laws hesitating to take with him those means which might preserve his own life, or affect that of the plundered, in the event of resistance, he generally confines his depredations to acts of private pilfering, and a robbery attended with murder is, of course, very rarely perpetrated. This instance of justice, moderation, and wisdom in the laws of China, receives an unfavourable contrast, in the decree which pronounces the wearing of a particular ornament to be a capital crime, and in the custom of attending to the fallacious information extorted by the rack.

By the laws of China, treason and rebellion are punished with a rigor even beyond the severity of our judgments, for the criminals are ordained to be cut in ten thousand pieces.

Children cursing or striking their parents was considered as next in atrocity to treason and rebellion, and in like manner punished by cutting the delinquent in one thousand pieces.

The usual capital punishments in China are strangling and beheading. The former is more common, and is decreed against those who are found guilty of crimes, which, however capital, are only held in the second act of atrocity. For instance; all acts of homicide, whether intentional or accidental; every species of fraud committed upon government; the seduction of a woman, whether married or single; giving abusive language to a parent; plundering or defacing a burying place; and robbing on the highway.

The punishment inflicted on disorderly women in China, is effected by placing small pieces of wood betwixt their fingers, and then drawing them very forcibly together with cords.

There are no people existing who pay so sacred an attention to the laws of decency as the Chinese. Habituated in preserving the constant appearance of modesty and self-controul; nothing is more uncommon amongst them than deleterious examples of unblushing vice; and
if

if there be truth in the old maxim, that want of decency, either in action or word, betrays a deficiency of understanding, they certainly indicate more sense than some other nations, who affect to excel them in education and refinement. The general manners of people of every condition in China wear as modest a habit as their persons. They discover no gratification in wresting their proper language into impure meanings; and grossly offensive phrases are only to be heard amongst the very dregs of the community, and at the risk of immediate and severe judicial correction.

For certain offences, the Chinese fasten a man to a large block of wood, by passing a strong ring of iron through one corner of it. From this ring a weighty chain is continued round the neck of the man, and fastened by a padlock upon his breast.

Wooden cage in China.—For other crimes a malefactor is farther secured by a chain from his neck to his ankle, whence another chain proceeds round one of the corner posts of his wooden cage, the entrance to which is through two moveable bars: these bars fastened by an iron bolt, that passes through some staples, and is prevented from sliding by a padlock. A plank serves the prisoner for a seat and for a bed.

Another severe punishment in China, and which we have alluded to in another part of our work, is the wooden collar, which is deemed very disgraceful. The collar is formed of heavy pieces of wood closed together, and having a hole in the centre, which fits the neck of the offender, who, when this machine is upon him, can neither see his own feet, nor put his hands to his mouth. He is not permitted to reside in any habitation, nor even to take rest for any considerable length of time, an inferior officer of justice constantly attending to prevent him. By night and by day he carries this collar, which is rendered heavier or lighter according to the nature of the crime and the strength of the offender. The weight of the common sort of these wooden collars is only fifty or sixty pounds, but there are those which weigh two hundred, and which are so grievous to the bearers, that sometimes through shame, pain, want of proper nourishment, or
of

of natural rest, they have been known to expire under them. The criminals find various methods, however, of mitigating their punishment, by walking in company with their relations and friends, who support the corners of the collar, and prevent it from pressing upon the shoulders; by resting it upon a table, a bench, or against a tree; or by having a chair constructed for the purpose, with four posts of equal height, to support the machine. When this ponderous incumbrance is fixed upon an offender, it is always before the magistrate who has decreed it, and upon each side, over the places where the wood is joined, long slips of paper are pasted, upon which the name of the person, the crime which he has committed, and the duration of his punishment are written in very distinct characters; a seal is likewise stamped upon the paper, to prevent his instruments from being opened. Three months is the usual time appointed for those to bear about this collar who have been convicted of robbery; for defamation, gambling, or breaches of the peace, it is carried a few weeks; and insolvent debtors are sometimes ordered to bear it till they have satisfied their creditors.

When the offender is liberated from the collar, it must be in the presence of the magistrate who imposed it. He then generally orders him a few blows of the pan-tsee, and dismisses him, with an exhortation to comport himself more regularly in future.

Persons in this situation are supplied with food by a particular kind of basins and spoons.

The punishment of the wooden tube.—A piece of bamboo cane is provided, which nearly corresponds with the height of the criminal, and is of considerable circumference. This bamboo being perfectly hollow, admits the passage of a large iron chain, one end of which is rivetted round a stake, the other encircles his neck, and is confined there by a padlock: his legs are fettered by a few links of chain.

Turkish Punishments inflicted on knavish Butchers and Bakers.

ONE very great cause of the extreme poverty which has so long prevailed in this country among a numerous class of its inhabitants, is created by our land owners, who, for a series of years have, as it were, confederated in the monopoly of farms. Mr. Pratt, that elegant and philanthropic writer, has traced this oppression to its source.

“ Unless the system of domestic monopoly be vigorously restrained,” says Mr. Pratt, “ and particularly the monopolizers of land, a system which has been going on in wicked progression from bad to worse, till terms are at last wanting to express its corruption, or its complexity. When this many-headed monster, with the Hydra in its train, shall be under controul, and not till then, when ruined cottages shall be rebuilt, agriculture encouraged as the first object of industry, and farms more equalized, horrible as has been the devastation, incredible as has been the destruction, the human species may begin to breathe. We may then hope to see our credit regained, our strength replenished, our reputation increased, the arts prevented from taking wing, the exhausted remnants of the land gain time and energy to recover ; exertions keep pace with encouragement, and the song of comfort and content become more heard from the ploughshare and the loom. In a word, thus may the country be renewed—thus may we boast again of the vigour and name of Old England. But if the corrupt system of diversified monopoly above-mentioned, with all that follows the hideous train of rapacity and fraud be not broken link by link, even the grand *desideratum* of exhausted and harassed nations, and harassed nature—peace itself must be inadequate to private happiness and public honour.”

Yet, wanton locusts of a foodful isle,
Where upon Freedom, Plenty us'd to smile ;
Where Plenty still supplies her utmost store,
Broad, deep, and vast, to all but to the poor.
If ey'ry blessing now beneath the sky,
Be doom'd to sate thy selfish gluttony,

Let

Let thy own pamper'd hand the harvest reap,
 And thy own flinty breast the toil-drops steep ;
 Let thy own bloated limbs, by vice embrac'd,
 Or by a miser, or a spendthrift's waste.
 Take from thy vassal hinds the useless trade,
 The fork, the rake, the ploughshare, and the spade ;
 Yes, let them starve ;—or, if thy luxury
 Demands the fiend-like joy to see them die ;
 Pronounce their fate, when they have dress'd thy grain,
 Each sink a corpse upon the fertile plain.

Pratt's Cottage Pictures.

Now that the reader has had a true sketch of the real cause of the nation's distress, and consequently of the enormous price of provisions, what punishment, in such times, do the butcher and baker deserve, who, not content with their profits, often give short weight.

In Turkey, among a race of what we call Mahometans and barbarians, the police is so very attentive to the people's rights, that such villains are punished in the following manner, while ours generally escape by simply losing their weights, for few care to go to the trouble and expense of prosecuting them.

In the dominions of the Grand Signior, if a butcher sells short weight, or stinking meat, for the first offence his meat is all given to the poor ; he is then tied to a post all day in the sun, and a piece of the stinking meat is hung close to his nose. This done, he is sentenced to pay a sum of money to the poor. For a second offence he is bastinadoed, or receives some other kind of whipping, and his fine is then heavy. For the third offence he suffers death.

The baker convicted in Turkey of selling short weight, or bad bread, for the first offence, as with the butcher, his bread is seized, and he is nailed to the post of the door, by an ear, and sometimes by both, for the space of twenty-four hours. For a second offence, his bread is in like manner seized for the use of the poor, and he suffers from two to three hundred bastinadoes on the soles of his feet, or on his back. Then his head is put through a hole in a large board, loaded with lead, and made to walk through the streets, until he is almost exhausted. If he survives this, and commits a third similar offence, he is beheaded.

We have not read of Turkish bakers base enough to mix alum in their bread, and give short weight into the bargain; as is practised in the face of the law, in London. Such villains, for the very first offence, should be hung up to the nearest lamp-post.

Punishment of the mortar in Turkey.

The celebrated Baron De Tott, an ambassador to the Turkish Emperor, mentions this singularly cruel mode of punishment.

He says, "That the ulemats, (the body of lawyers, of which the mufti is the head) were to be exempted from the confiscation of goods, nor were they to be put to death, *but by being bruised in a mortar.*"

He then adds, "That the Sultan Osman was irritated to that degree by the haughtiness and insolence of the mufti, that he ordered the mortar to be replaced, which, having been long neglected, was thrown down, and almost covered with earth. This order alone produced a most surprising effect, the body of the ulemats, justly terrified, submitted."

From this circumstance, the passage in the Bible which mentions this punishment, naturally recurs to the mind.

In Proverbs, xxvii. 22. "Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat, with a pestel, yet will not his foolishness depart from him."

In this sense, the word FOOL means a transgressor, a violator of the law. Now, as it is well known, that customs which prevail in the oriental nations, have, in all ages remained invariable, the question is, whether Solomon, in the passage quoted, does not refer to a kind of punishment which was inflicted somewhere in his days, similar to that which is mentioned by the Baron de Tott. To us it strikes conviction, but we shall be glad to find the passage expounded by some of our studious divines.

HOSEA YOEELL,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, NOV. 16, 1747, FOR MURDER.

It is estimated in another part of our chronology, that there are more Jew thieves in London, on a fair calculation of their numbers, than of the abandoned of all other persuasions. For some years these Levites, formerly kept under a necessary restriction by the Christian laws, presuming upon too ample a toleration, have become the bullies of the people of London. The disgraceful practice of pugilism, revived by Mendoza, on their part, has greatly increased their depredations as well as their audacity. The ruffian set of the disciples of Moses, sent into Covent-garden theatre some years since, in order to awe the public to an acquiescence in an imposition of increased prices to that place of public amusement, shews to what a daring pitch they have arrived.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in October, 1747, Hosea Youell, and Jacob Lopez, two Jews, were indicted for the murder of Captain Johns, when the former was convicted, and the latter acquitted.

The story of this affair is as follows: Mr. Johns coming up Sandwich-court, Devonshire-square, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, met two men whom he believed to be Jews, who robbed him of his watch and money. Hearing some people coming towards him, he called out, "Stop thief;" on which one of them returned, and gave him a stab in the body, of the depth of nine inches, as appeared by the deposition of the surgeon who attended Captain Johns at the Dolphin inn, Bishopsgate-street, and extracted a piece of the sword from his body.

Youell being taken into custody, Alderman Rawlinson attended the wounded man, who positively charged Youell with being the murderer, and signed his charge, being in his perfect senses, but died within fifteen minutes afterwards.

The wounded man being asked how he could be so
 2 E 2 positive

positive to Youell, said, he knew him by the light from a lamp, and that he should know his voice. Youell being bid to turn round, slouch his hat, and speak, hesitated for a while; but at length complying, the captain said, "You are the man that stabbed me, I am positive of the voice."

A piece of a sword was found in the court where the captain was stabbed, which exactly tallied with the piece lodged in the body of the deceased: and it also appeared that Youell had requested the city-marshal to speak to the alderman, that he might be admitted an evidence; and averred, that the murder was not committed by himself, but by one Hart.

After conviction, the prisoner said that he was only eighteen years of age, and born of Jewish parents, who lived in Creed-lane, Leadenhall-street. He was so illiterate that he could neither read Hebrew nor English. The ordinary of Newgate representing to him the advantages of the Gospel over the Mosaic dispensation, he said, that as he was born and bred a Jew, he would die such.

He was attended by a rabbi, and at the place of execution stedfastly denied having been guilty of the murder. However, he earnestly advised young people to be cautious in the choice of their company, as it was by a neglect of that caution that he had come to a fatal end.

GEORGE LANCASTER,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, NOVEMBER 16, 1747, FOR THAT MOST SHAMEFUL CRIME, FORGING A SEAMAN'S WILL, IN ORDER TO ROB HIS WIFE AND CHILD.

THIS offender was born in Hatton-garden, London, of respectable parents, who placed him with a reputable attorney, with whom he served part of his clerkship in the most regular manner; but making very bad connexions, his master requested his parents to take him home, and send him to sea, as the most likely means to prevent his ruin.

The

The parents approving this hint, persuaded the son to sail as captain's clerk on board a ship in the royal navy : and he continued some years in this station.

He came to London when his ship was paid off, and having received a considerable sum of money, dissipated the whole in houses of ill fame. His father was now dead, but his mother, with a fondness very natural, but which perhaps contributed to his ruin, supplied his extravagances till she was very much reduced in her circumstances ; and in the mean time the son borrowed money in her name of any one who would trust him ; but at length his character being lost, and his mother totally impoverished, he determined on the commission of the crime for which his life paid the forfeit.

A seaman, named Hugh Price, to whom thirty-six pounds were due for wages, died on board the *Dorchester* man of war, having made a will in favour of his wife and son, who lived near Whitehaven in Cumberland. Lancaster hearing of the death of Price, forged a will purporting to be his, and carrying it to Doctors' Commons, obtained a probate of the will, in consequence of his swearing that he was the son of the above-mentioned Price.

Being thus possessed of the probate, he went to a public-house, producing to the landlord a letter signed George Price, whom he averred was the son of the deceased, and had empowered him to dispose of his father's wages. The landlord, unacquainted with these matters, applied to a gentleman, who told him he might safely purchase, if Lancaster could get the original ticket, and would lodge the probate in his hands as a collateral security.

The publican mentioning this to Lancaster, he said he would procure the original ticket from Portsmouth ; but at the expiration of four days he produced a forged ticket, which the landlord, on the advice of a friend, purchased for twenty-seven pounds.

About three months after this transaction, a clerk of the Navy-office calling on the publican, he shewed him the ticket. He said he thought it a good one, but he would write to the agent at Portsmouth to inquire into the fact. The agent's answer was, that Hugh Price's ticket,

ticket, in favour of his son George was still in the office, so that it was evident that Lancaster's ticket must have been a forgery.

Hereupon the landlord went to the mother of the delinquent, and said he would adjust the matter, if either she or her son could make good the deficiency; otherwise he would prosecute. The poor woman said she knew not where to find her son, and as to herself it was out of her power.

The publican then went to an attorney, who advised him to make a debt of the affair, and arrest Lancaster for the money. This being done, he was committed to the Poultry Compter, where he was informed, that he should be set at liberty, if his friends would make a subscription to raise the sum; but not having friends to assist him in this essential matter, the publican went to the Navy-office, where he informed the commissioners of the affair, and they ordered Lancaster to be prosecuted by their solicitor.

Lancaster's guilt being proved in the clearest manner on his trial, he was convicted, and received sentence of death. After conviction he entertained the most sanguine hopes of a reprieve, through the interest of his friends, but being disappointed in this expectation, he made the most serious preparation for the awful fate that awaited him.

SERJEANT SMITH,

An English Deserter to the French,

SHOT IN HYDE PARK ON THE 11th DAY OF DECEMBER, 1747.

WE should not have accorded to the case of this ungrateful traitor a separate memoir, were it not to hand down his crime to posterity, as an example to the army, and a caution against desertion.

On the 26th of November, 1747, a court-martial*
assembled

* Courts-martial are composed of a certain number of officers, according

assembled at Whitehall, of which Marshal Wade was president, for the purpose of trying Serjeant Smith who had been lately brought from Scotland, charged with deserting into the service of the French, and afterwards to that of the rebels, and having heard the evidence for and against the prisoner, he was found guilty.

On the 11th of December he was conducted from the Savoy prison to the parade in St. James's Park, where he was met by a detachment of the foot-guards, commanded by Colonel Drury, to Hyde Park. The unhappy man was attended by the minister of the Savoy, and having arrived at a gibbet, under which was a new-made grave, to receive his body ; to which dreadful preparation he seemed little moved : indeed, there was an apparent unconcern in the whole of his behaviour.

This was a man of extraordinary abilities, and as vicious in his principles. He had served several of the Princes in the then late wars in Germany, and abused

ing to the magnitude of the charge against the prisoner, of which one is the president, and another judge-advocate. A regimental court-martial is appointed by the commander of each troop or regiment for the trial of offences which are not deemed sufficiently heinous to be carried to a general court-martial. Regimental courts-martial are often assembled, sometimes in a few minutes, at the drum-head, and consists of a captain, the president, and four subaltern officers, members. They are not sworn, but give sentence and judgment like the Lords, sitting on the trial of a peer, on a charge affecting his life—"Upon their honours." This may be termed the internal or domestic management of a regiment, trying offences by a court of its own officers ; but where a charge is of a serious nature, as mutiny, desertion, or treason, then application is made to the commander in chief for a general court-martial. It is composed of veteran officers, the oldest being the president, and the advocate-general, or his deputy, attending. This office partakes of both civil and military functions. He regulates the evidence, propounds questions, as well for the prosecutor as the accused, takes minutes of the trial, and sums up the evidence in the manner of a civil judge, on the trial of a criminal, for the determination of the court. This done, the court is cleared of all strangers, and the members alone debate on the nature of the crime, and offer their respective opinions, beginning with the youngest, who being called upon by the president, pronounces "Guilty," or "Not Guilty," as he feels the case. The next is then called upon, and a majority of voices forms the sentence ; the president, on an equal number for and against the prisoner, has the casting vote. When found guilty, in like manner they determine upon the punishment, whether death or corporeal punishment. The sentence is then sent to the King for approbation, and when confirmed, the punishment is inflicted.

them

them all by desertion. He was master of several languages, and from this acquirement he acted as interpreter to our officers, who were so partial to him, that they appointed him a paymaster-serjeant, and in fact treated him as their companion. His income could not have been less than 200*l.* a year. A man thus caressed must be truly a villain who could be base enough to desert his duty; but Smith was of a roving turn, and could not keep long in a place, the excuse he gave for his crimes. He died undaunted, and declared himself a protestant. Reports had been circulated, owing probably to the fluency with which he spoke French, that he was a papist. He was immediately buried under the gibbet, which was erected on the bank of the serpentine river.

JOHN PARKES,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, MARCH 14, FOR FORGING AN ORDER ON A SILVERSMITH, FOR UNWROUGHT SILVER.

(A singular Case.)

THIS malefactor was a native of Wrexham, in Denbighshire, and having been liberally educated, was apprenticed to a silversmith, with whom he served his time with a fair character, and then came to settle in London.

After a residence of more than twenty years, during which he worked as a journeyman, he became distressed in circumstances, which induced him to think of having recourse to the following method of supplying his necessities.

Having drawn a bill on Mr. Scott, a refiner in Love-lane, in the name of Mr. Brown, of Lombard-street, for one hundred ounces of silver, he carried it to the house of the former, who not being at home, an apprentice read the draft, and asked if Parkes was a silversmith, and for whom he worked. He told him for Mr. Robinson in Bond-street. The apprentice said, he was well acquainted with Mr. Robinson; but not knowing that his master dealt

dealt with Mr. Brown, begged that the bearer would call for an answer in the morning.

Parkes now went home to bed: but reflecting that he could imitate Mr. Robinson's hand-writing, with which he was perfectly acquainted, he wrote a letter in his name to Mr. Scott, informing him that he would be answerable for Brown's credit, if any doubt was entertained of it, and begging that no disappointment might happen.

Parkes had some idea of carrying this letter himself; but reflecting on the danger that might attend such a proceeding, he went into a public-house, near Cripplegate, and calling for a pint of beer, sent a porter with the letter, telling him to inform Mr. Scott, that he came from Mr. Robinson, of Bond-street; and to add, that the person who had been there the preceding day was taken ill. The porter was no sooner gone, than Parkes paid for his beer and told the woman of the house, that if the porter brought any thing, he was to leave it at the bar.

This being done, he followed the porter, and observing him go into Mr. Scott's, he stopped in a dark passage till he saw him come out, and when he was at a small distance from the house he followed him, and receiving the bag of silver, paid him for the portorage, and decamped with all expedition. He carried his ill-gotten booty to the house of an acquaintance near the Seven Dials, where he melted part of the silver, and spent the produce in the most extravagant manner.

Being reduced to poverty, he melted the remainder of the silver, and mixing it with some copper, he offered it for sale to a refiner, who threatened to apprehend him for presenting adulterated silver; but the offender pretending that he had no intention of fraud, the refiner paid him the amount of the silver.

Having thus escaped punishment for the first offence, he committed several other crimes of a similar nature, and at length that which cost him his life. Having forged a note in the name of Mr. Lamery, he carried it to a refiner in Oat-lane, named Froxhall, desiring that 200 ounces of silver might be delivered to the bearer. This note he delivered to Froxhall's apprentice, who carried it up stairs to his master, but first fastened the door, that

Parkes might not escape. The boy coming down soon, desired Parkes to sit down, and his master would wait on him. He did so ; and Mr. Froxhall coming down, asked who wanted the silver. Parkes said, he did ; on which he was desired to wait, and he should have it : but in the mean time the apprentice was sent for a constable, who conducted Parkes before the Lord Mayor, who committed him to Newgate.

Being indicted at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, he was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die. After conviction, he exhibited signs of the utmost penitence, and sincerely lamented the past irregularities of his life. He behaved devoutly at the place of execution, and warned others to avoid those practices which brought him to a fatal end.

WILLIAM WHURRIER,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN FOR MURDER, MARCH 7, 1748, AND HIS BODY
HUNG IN CHAINS ON FINCHLEY COMMON.

(*A Hard Case.*)

WE cannot so clearly see by the report of this trial, as the jury might have done by the evidence adduced, the *malice propense* necessary to constitute the conviction of wilful murder. But, though we are by no means disposed to question a verdict of the country, yet we cannot avoid saying, that the case, added to the services which the unfortunate man had rendered the king, should have proved a strong recommendation to royal mercy.

This soldier was a native of Morpeth, in Northumberland, and brought up as a husbandman ; but having enlisted in general Cope's regiment, he served five years and a half in Flanders ; when, some horses being wanted for the use of the army, he and another man were sent to England to purchase them.

On the 11th of February, 1748, as Whurrier and his companion were walking over Finchley Common towards Barnet, the latter, being wearied, agreed with a post-boy, who went by with a led horse, to permit him to ride to Barnet, leaving Whurrier at an alehouse on the road.

Whurrier

Whurrier having drank freely, met with a woman who appeared to be his country-woman, and with her he continued drinking till both of them were intoxicated, when they proceeded together towards Barnet ; but they were followed by some sailors, one of whom insulted Whurrier, telling him that he had no business with the woman.

Whurrier suspecting there was a design to injure him, asked the woman if she had any connection with those men. She said she had not : but in the mean time the other sailors coming up, said they came to rescue the woman ; on which Whurrier drew his sword ; but returned it into the scabbard without annoying any one.

A soldier riding by at this instant, Whurrier told him that the sailors had ill-treated him, and begged his assistance, on which the soldier getting off his horse, the sailors ran away, and Whurrier pursuing them, overtook the first that had assaulted him, and drawing his sword, cut him in such a manner that he was carried in a hopeless condition to a house in the neighbourhood, where he languished till the Sunday following, and then died.

It appeared by the testimony of a surgeon that the deceased had received a cut across the skull, as if done with a butcher's chopper, so that the brains lay open ; besides a variety of other wounds.

Whurrier being taken into custody for the commission of this murder, was brought to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey ; and being capitally convicted on the clearest evidence, was sentenced to die.

After conviction he said he thought there was a combination between the woman he had met with and the sailors ; and a day or two before he suffered, he procured the following paper to be published, which he called, " Whurrier's Declaration."

" This is to let the world know that I have lived in good credit, and have served his Majesty eight years and two months. In the time of my service, I have stood six campaigns, and always obeyed all lawful commands : I have been in three battles, and at Bergen-op-zoom, during the time it was besieged. The first battle was at Dettingen, June, 1743, when his Majesty headed his army : the second was in the year 1745,

April 30, at Fontenoy ; the third was at Luckland, by siege ; besides several skirmishes, and other great dangers. I had rather it had been my fate to have died in the field of battle, where I have seen many thousand wallowing in their blood, than to come to such disgrace : but, alas ! I have escaped all these dangers to come to this unhappy fate, to suffer at Tyburn, and afterwards to hang in chains on a gibbet, which last is the nearest concern to me ; and I cannot help expressing, that it would be more beneficial to the public to employ blacksmiths to make breast-plates for the soldiers, than irons to inclose their bodies to be exposed to the fowls of the air.

“ I have been a true subject and faithful servant, as is well known to the officers of the regiment to which I belonged. If I had been a pick-pocket, or a thief, I should have suffered much more deservedly, in my own opinion, than I now do ; for what I did was in my own defence : I was upon the king’s duty, and was assaulted by the men in sailors’ habits, who gave me so many hard blows, as well as so much bad language, that I could no longer bear it, and was obliged to draw my sword in my own defence ; and being in too great a passion, as well as too much in liquor, I own I struck without mercy ; as thinking my life in danger, surrounded by four men, who I thought designed to murder me ; who, or what they were the Lord knows ; it is plain they had a false pass, as it was proved : and that they had travelled but seven miles in nine days ; but I forgive them, as I hope forgiveness : and the Lord have mercy on my soul, and the poor man’s whom I killed.

W. WHURRIER.”

GEORGE

GEORGE COCK,

A MOST PLAUSIBLE THIEF, EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JUNE 13, 1748, FOR
PRIVATELY STEALING.

THIS is another case which opens a scene of consummate hypocrisy in the destructive art of robbery; nor can we guard unsuspecting women against the insinuations and interested methods he adopted to plunder them. We would, however, recommend to them the greatest caution in receiving a visit of the other sex, in the absence of their husbands; but this was a villain, coming in their beloved names, that might have deceived the most prudent; and we rejoice that his deceptions were not of long duration.

The artful rogue was born in the neighbourhood of Aldgate, and at a proper age apprenticed to a peruke-maker in Spital-fields; but he absconded before the time expressed in his indenture was expired, and his master judging him to be strongly disposed to disorderly and profligate courses, pursued no measures to induce his return.

Cock lived seven or eight years as errand-boy and porter to several tradesmen, none of whom had reason to suspect that he purloined his property: but he was held by them in no esteem, on account of his being frequently intoxicated, and associating with people of dissolute principles. It is natural to suppose, that the abandoned company he kept increased his inclination to a life of idleness, and proved the cause of his pursuing felonious courses for procuring the means of subsistence.

Having made pretensions of love to a maid-servant in the neighbourhood of May-fair she invited him to her master's house; he was punctual to the appointment, and during his stay, treacherously stole a silver spoon of about twelve shillings value.

Learning that a lady lived at Streatham, whose son was abroad, he went to her house, and informed her that he was lately arrived in England, and waited upon her by the desire of the young gentleman, to assure her of the continuance of his filial affection. He was invited to
partake

partake of the best provisions the house could afford, and entertained with great liberality, kindness, and respect. After he had sufficiently refreshed himself, and secreted a large silver spoon in his pocket, he departed, intending to direct his course towards the metropolis. The spoon being missed, two servants were dispatched in search of the thief, and overtaking him at about the distance of a mile from the house, they conducted him to a magistrate, who committed him to Bridewell as a vagrant, as the lady was averse to prosecute him for the felony. Having remained in prison about three months, and been privately whipped, he was dismissed, after the justice by whom he was committed had pathetically represented to him the disgrace, danger, and iniquity, of seeking to obtain a livelihood by illegal practices.

Upon gaining information that the father of a young gentleman of Bartholomew-lane was abroad, he went to the house, and pretended to the youth that he was preparing to embark for the country in which his father resided; saying, that, as he was acquainted with the old gentleman, he should be happy to deliver any message or letter, or execute any commission with which the son might think proper to charge him. His reception here was not less hospitable than that he experienced at Streatham: and he did not take leave till he had conveyed a silver cup into his pocket, with which he got off undiscovered. He sold the cup, and expended the money it produced in the most extravagant manner.

Cock went to the house of the captain of a trading vessel in Ratcliffe-highway, whom he knew was at sea, expecting that he should be able to amuse his wife by some plausible pretences, and to obtain a booty before he left the house. He was informed that the captain's lady was not at home; but was invited into the house by her mother, who told him that she expected her daughter's return in a very short time. Being shown into the kitchen, he asked the maid-servant for some table-beer, and while she was gone to draw it, he secreted a large silver tankard; upon the maid's bringing the beer he drank heartily, and then, pretending that he had some business to

to transact which would not permit him to stay any longer, took leave, promising to return on the following day. He sold the tankard to a Jew.

He inquired of a servant-maid in Spital-fields, whether there were not some women in that neighbourhood whose husbands were in foreign parts. The girl said the husbands of two or three of her master's neighbours were abroad, and asked the name of the person he desired to find. He said he had forgot the name, but artfully added that he should remember it upon hearing it repeated; in consequence of which she mentioned some names, and upon his saying that one of them was that of the party he wanted, the girl directed him to the house where the wife of his supposed friend resided. He told the woman that he was lately arrived in England; and, by her husband's particular desire, called to inform her of his being in perfect health when he embarked. He formed some trifling excuse for occasioning the woman to leave the apartment, and soon after her return he went away, taking with him a pint silver tankard and two silver table spoons.

By the above and other villanies of a similar nature, he gained a maintenance for several years: but it will now appear that notwithstanding the art he employed in the pursuit of villany, he at length fell a just victim to the insulted laws of his country.

Cock went to two ladies in Soho-square in one day, under the pretext of delivering messages from their husbands, who had been several years resident in foreign parts; and was received by them in the most kind and hospitable manner. He had been gone but a short time, when one of the ladies missed some silver spoons; in consequence of which he was pursued and taken before a magistrate: and during his examination the other appeared, and on oath, identified a silver tankard found in the prisoner's possession. He was committed to Newgate, and at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, condemned to suffer death.

During his confinement in Newgate he showed not the least remorse for his past offences, nor employed any part of the short time he had to exist in making the necessary preparation for the awful change he was about to experience;

perience ; but flattered himself in the expectation of being reprieved. However, after learning that he was ordered for execution, he, in some degree, corrected the irregularity of his behaviour ; but still his conduct was by no means such as might have been expected from a man in his dreadful situation.

He was almost wholly regardless of the devotional exercises at the place of execution, and refused to address the populace, though urged to it by the ordinary.

On the 14th day of September, 1748, was executed at Old Down, near Bath, Richard Biggs, for the murder of his wife, with horrid barbarity. Her head, breast, arms, thighs, and legs, were full of bruises and wounds. After having beat her to death, he carried the body, and threw it into the river near Bath. He was convicted on the evidence, shocking to relate, of his own son, a boy only eleven years of age. When on the ladder, and before the rope was affixed to the fatal tree, he jumped down, and lay flat on the ground, refusing to stir. He made great opposition, and long struggled for life. Thus, though he had so inhumanly deprived his wife of existence, he showed how sweet life was to himself by his reluctance to yield it up, though forfeited to the laws of his country.

WILLIAM YORK,

(Commonly called "The Boy Murderer.")

CONVICTED OF THE MURDER OF ANOTHER CHILD IN THE POOR HOUSE OF EYKE IN SUFFOLK.

ALREADY have we given too many instances of the commission of the foul crime of murder, in every shape of cruelty, by both sexes ; but to enrol a child in the calendar, tried, found guilty, and condemned for this worst of crimes, and committed too with the cruelty, art, and dissimulation, of a Catherine Hayes, and a Martha Alden, the

the murderers of their husbands,* was entirely beyond our ideas of the degrees of turpitude.

This very early sinner was but just turned of ten years of age, when he committed the dreadful crime. He was a pauper in the Poor-house, belonging to the parish of Eyke, in Suffolk, and was committed on the coroner's inquest, to Ipswich gaol, for the murder of Susan Mahew, another child of five years of age, who had been his bed-fellow. The following is his confession, taken and attested by a justice of the peace, and which was, in part, proved on his trial, with many corroborating circumstances of his guilt.

He said, that a trifling quarrel happening between them, on the 13th of May, 1748, about ten in the morning, he struck her with his open hand, and made her cry : that she going out of the house to the dunghill, opposite to the door, he followed her, with a hook in his hand, with an intent to kill her ; but before he came up to her, he set down the hook, and went into the house for a knife ; he then came out again, took hold of the girl's left hand, and cut her wrist all round, and to the bone, with his knife, and then threw her down, and cut her to the bone just above the elbow of the same arm. That after this, he set his foot upon her stomach, and cut her right arm round about, and to the bone, both on the wrist and above the elbow. That he then thought she would not die, and therefore took the hook, and cut her left thigh to the bone ; and, observing she was not dead yet, his next care was to conceal the murder ; for this purpose he filled a pail with water, at a ditch, and washed the blood off the child's body, buried it in the dunghill, together with the blood that was spilt upon the ground, and made the dunghill as smooth as he could ; afterwards he washed the knife and hook, and carried them into the house, washed the blood off his own clothes, hid the child's clothes in an old chamber, and then came down and got his breakfast. When he was examined, he showed very little concern, and appeared easy and cheerful. All he

* The horrid particulars of these murders will be found in the course of this work.

alleged was, that the child fouled the bed, in which they lay together, that she was sulky, and that he did not like her. (Judge Hales ordered a boy of the same age to be hanged, who burnt a child in a cradle).*

This "boy murderer" was found guilty, and sentence of death pronounced against him, but was respited from time to time, and, on account of his tender years, was at length pardoned.

If we were not well aware of the negligence of the keepers of Poor-houses, we might say, that this premeditated and deliberate murder could not have been effected. A few hours must have elapsed during the shocking transaction; where, then, was the care over infant paupers? The overseers of the poor, in many instances, are extremely attentive to their parish dinners; but were they to employ an equal portion of their time in care and attention to the morality of their neighbouring poor, such crimes might be avoided, and the child of charity brought up in the paths of industry and virtue.

JOHN LANCASTER,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, SEPT. 24, 1748, FOR STEALING A SILVER MUG, AT BARTHOLOMEW FAIR, AND OTHER PROPERTY IN DIFFERENT PLACES.

WE could wish, seriously, to caution all young people against attending fairs. They constitute an assemblage of idle people; and where there are indiscriminately mixed thieves and pickpockets, who go from fair to fair, loose women, strolling players, and vagabonds of every description, waiting to plunder the honest part of the people. Saint Bartholomew's fair, from its long continuance, is a school of vice which has initiated more youth into the habits of villany, than even Newgate. It is but very lately, that a numerous gang of infant thieves, of both sexes, were

* Two boys, and small for their years, named John Bunn and Joseph Leech, the former fourteen, and the other fifteen years old, for a street robbery, were hanged at Tyburn. Let children beware of committing crimes, for their youth will not always save them.

detected

detected in committing depredations of every description which they could accomplish. They had, in imitation of Macheath's gang, their captain, and the receiver of the stolen property, who, though the eldest of the confederacy, were not more than thirteen or fourteen years of age!

The parents of John Lancaster were poor but honest people, who put him to school to be instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic; and, when about fourteen years of age, apprenticed him to a velvet-weaver, who, as well as his parents, lived in Whitechapel.

After the term of his servitude had expired, he for some time followed his trade as a journeyman. He was naturally inclined to vicious practices, and constantly associated with the most profligate company. He was known to have committed several offences against the laws, for one of which, however, he was apprehended and secured in Newgate, where he contracted an acquaintance with a man named Lewis. They were both acquitted in the same sessions, Lewis in defect of evidence, and Lancaster because no prosecutor appeared.

They went together to Rumford, predetermined to obtain money by violence. At Stratford they stopped a gentleman, and robbed him of his watch, a guinea, and some silver. Their success in this attempt giving them a greater flow of spirits, Lewis (who had been long a notorious thief) said, "Come along with me, my boy, and we shall soon get money enough to live like gentlemen;" and they agreed to seek no means of support but that dangerous and unjustifiable one of making depredations on the public.

They now determined to go to Smithfield, it being the time of Bartholomew-fair, when they stole a silver mug. Leaving the fair, they went to Duke's-place, in order to sell the mug to a Jew, named Levi Chitty, but he not being at home, they adjourned to a neighbouring alehouse, to wait till his return; however, they had not been long there, before Lancaster broke open a drawer, and from thence stole several valuable articles. They now paid for the beer they had drunk, and escaped without suspicion.

On the following day they stole a quantity of brass
2 G 2 candlesticks,

candlesticks, which they sold for fifty shillings to the Jew, who told them that he would not have given so high a price, but that he was desirous of encouraging them to steal articles of greater value.

They made a booty of a number of silk handkerchiefs; and the money received for them from the Jew, they spent in the company of a number of prostitutes, among whom was Sarah Cock, the widow of George Cock, whose memoirs we have already recorded.

Lancaster, Lewis, and Sarah Cock, went the following evening to the Royal Exchange, where they picked the pockets of several passengers, of watches, pocket-books, purses of money, and other property.

They frequented all places of public resort: and during divine service on a Sunday evening at the Foundry near Moorfields, they picked the pockets of several of the congregation. On their return from the place of worship, they came to the house of a velvet-weaver; and Lancaster knowing him to be reputed as a man of considerable property, it was determined to break open and rob the house. Having effected an entrance, they secured a quantity of plate, and then went into the warehouse, whence they stole velvet to the amount of more than 100*l*. Having obtained this considerable booty, they went to Sarah Cock, and giving her the velvet, adjourned to an alehouse in Houndsditch, to wait till she had disposed of it to the Jew.

The sum Cock demanded for the velvet the Jew said was more than he could really afford to give, as the colour was very indifferent, and he should be put to expense in sending it to Holland, where all his stolen goods were exported for sale. During their conversation they were observed by a weaver and a constable, who suspecting the velvet to have been stolen, the woman was interrogated as to the manner of its coming into her possession. She acknowledged having received the property from Lancaster and Lewis, and mentioned the house where they were then waiting; in consequence of which they were both apprehended, and secured in Newgate.

Lewis being admitted an evidence for the crown, Lancaster

caster was convicted of stealing the silver mug and other property, and sentenced to die. While under sentence of death, the ordinary endeavoured to give him a proper idea of his duty to his Creator: but to the very moment of his death he obstinately persisted in a refusal to make what atonement was yet in his power for the many offences he had committed.

JOSEPH RAWLINS, alias GREAT JOE,

(A daring and notorious Smuggler,)

EXECUTED AT WINCHESTER, OCTOBER 10, 1748, FOR BURGLARY.

THIS offence is a felony at common law; it is described to be when a person, by night, breaketh into the mansion of another, with an intent to commit a felony; whether the felonious intent be executed or not.

By the 18th of Elizabeth, cap. 7, the benefit of clergy is taken away from the offence; and by the 3d and 4th William and Mary, cap. 9, from accessaries before the fact.—By the 12th of Anne, stat. 1, cap. 7, if any person shall enter into a mansion or dwelling-house by day or by night, without breaking into the same with an intent to commit any felony; or being in such house, shall commit any felony; and shall, in the night-time, break the said house to get out of the same, he is declared guilty of the offence of burglary, and punished accordingly.

It is, without doubt, highly expedient that this offence should be punished more severely than any other species of theft; since, besides the loss of property, there is something very terrific in the mode of perpetration, which is often productive of dreadful effects.

The ancient laws made a marked distinction in the punishment, between this offence, which was called *Hamsokne* (and which name it retains at present in the northern part of this kingdom) and robbing a house in the day-time.

It is impossible to reflect upon the outrages and acts
of

of violence continually committed, more particularly in and near the metropolis, by lawless ravagers of property, and destroyers of lives, in disturbing the peaceful mansion, the castle of every Englishman, and also in abridging the liberty of travelling upon the public highways, without asking—Why are these enormities suffered, in a country where the criminal laws are supposed to have arrived at a greater degree of perfection than any other?

This is an important inquiry, interesting, in the highest degree, to every member of the body politic.

If, in pursuing such an inquiry, the situation of Holland, Flanders, and several of the northern states on the continent, be examined, it will be found that this terrific evil had (alluding to these states previous to the present war) there scarcely an existence; and that the precaution of bolting doors and windows during the night was even seldom used; although, in these countries, from the opulence of many of the inhabitants, there were great temptations to plunder property.

This security did not proceed from severer punishments; for in very few countries are they more sanguinary than in England.—It is to be attributed to a more correct and energetic system of Police, joined to an early and general attention to the employment, education, and morals, of the lower orders of the people; a habit of industry and sobriety is thus acquired, which, universally imbibed in early life, “grows with their growth, and strengthens with their strength.”

Houses, intended to be entered during the night, are previously reconnoitred and examined for days preceding. If one or more of the servants are not already associated with the gang, the most artful means are used to obtain their assistance; and when every previous arrangement is made, the mere operation of robbing a house becomes a matter of little difficulty.

By the connivance and assistance of immediate, or former servants, they are led to the places where the most valuable, as well as the most portable, articles are deposited, and the object is speedily attained.

In this manner do the principal burglars and house-breakers proceed: and let this information serve as a
caution

caution to every person in the choice both of their male and female servants ; since the latter as well as the former are not seldom accomplices in very atrocious robberies.

It frequently happens that the burglars make their contracts with the receivers on the evening before the plunder is obtained ; so as to secure a ready admittance immediately afterwards, and before day-break, for the purpose of effectual concealment by melting plate, obliterating marks, and securing all other articles so as to place them out of the reach of discovery. This has long been reduced to a regular system which is understood and followed as a trade.

Night coaches promote, in an eminent degree, the perpetration of burglaries and other felonies : bribed by a high reward, many hackney-coachmen eagerly enter into the pay of nocturnal depredators, and wait in the neighbourhood until the robbery is completed, and then draw up, at the moment the watchmen are going their rounds, or off their stands, for the purpose of conveying the plunder to the house of the receiver, who is generally waiting the issue of the enterprise. Nearly one-half of the hackney coachmen, in London, are said to be (in the cant phrase) flashmen designed to assist thieves.

Joseph Rawlins was indicted at the assize held at Winchester, for the year 1748, for burglariously breaking into the dwelling-house of Mr. Wakefield, of Selborne, in the county of Hants, on the 6th of September, 1747, and thereout stole cash, plate, and other effects, the property of the said Wakefield.*

It

* On the 21st of April, 1747, two smugglers, George Kingman and Barnet Wollit, both outlaws, one of whom murdered a man on Hurst-Green, were killed in a skirmish with the townsmen of Goodhurst, in Kent, who found it necessary to arm against those desperadoes, who rob and plunder wherever they go, and live upon the spoil.

This spirited conduct of the people of this town was highly praiseworthy. They acted under the following order of council :

“ In consequence of a report of the Attorney and Solicitor General, wherein they gave their opinion, that all His Majesty’s subjects, civil and military, magistrates, officers, and private persons, have, by law, without any express warrant for that purpose, authority to seize and apprehend ‘ any persons assembled, armed, and acting in such manner, as described
in

It appeared in evidence, that this fellow, at the head of thirteen more, met on the day of the robbery, at Adverse Heath, in Sussex, whence they proceeded to Woolmer Forest, where they lay concealed till the evening. Then they mounted their horses, and arrived about eight near Mr. Wakefield's. Jeremiah Curtis, one of the villains, rode up to the house; and pretending he had lost his way, desired to be set right. The men-servants of the house having informed him, he asked for some beer, when an old maid-servant went to draw some; but he found great fault with it, and called for ale. She told him, that her master had the key, and was gone to bed. On this he rode back to his companions, who immediately came up, armed with blunderbusses and pistols; and, pretending to be officers, demanded the master of the house, insisting that he harboured outlawed smugglers. Being answered that he was in bed, they broke open the door, and going up to Mr. Wakefield's room, presented a blunderbuss to his breast, and, with horrid imprecations, demanded where he kept his money. On being told he had no money, they pulled him across the bed; yet still he persisted. They then told him to point out his plate; and, fearing to be murdered, he showed them the chest. This they immediately broke open, and stole thereout a silver tankard, a salt, porringer, salver, and twelve spoons: from another room, fourteen guineas, a silver watch, and several other things of value. Meanwhile the prisoner at the bar, Rawlins, with another, held the horses of those plundering, fearing to enter, as they were known to the family. Another of the party kept guard over the servants, threatening them with instant death, if they stirred.

Having plundered the house of every portable valuable,

in the laws against smuggling,' and bring them before a magistrate, who may commit them to prison: and in seizing, apprehending, securing, and committing them to prison, may repel force with force, and justify any violence or hostilities which may be necessary to suppress and subdue them, to bring them to justice.

"His Majesty in council is pleased to require and command all officers, both civil and military, to use their utmost force in support of the laws, and suppressing, subduing, and bringing, all such offenders to justice."

they

they returned to Mr. Wakefield, and with dreadful oaths, demanded two hundred pounds, which they insisted he had just received from Bristol. He protested that he had received none; upon which they dragged him out of bed, and swore they would carry him off, unless he discovered his money; but finding him resolute, they let him go. The next day, the thieves divided their booty, of which the prisoner had his share.

The old servant woman who had kindly given drink to the first villain, swore, that they rifled her pockets of four shillings—most mean and ungrateful.

The defence set up by this old offender was weak and ignorant; so that the jury, without hesitation, found him guilty; and he was accordingly executed.

We have already observed what a pest to the country were these different gangs of smugglers; for when none of the vessels employed in this illicit trade were in the harbours and creeks, with their contraband cargoes, the villains employed the time in housebreaking, highway and foot robberies; and it was long before they could be extirpated.

THOMAS THOMPSON,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, OCT. 24, 1748, FOR HORSE-STEALING.

THE parents of this offender lived at Otley in Yorkshire: his father dying, his mother and a numerous family were left in very indigent circumstances. Thomas being arrived at a proper age, the parish-officers proposed binding him apprentice; but he declined the offer, saying he should prefer going to sea with a captain who was come into the country, to visit his mother and other relations. He accompanied the captain to Durham; and the master of the post-house in that city, thinking him an active and promising youth, hired him to wait upon his customers three days in a week, and to ride post on the others. During the three years that he remained in this station, he was guilty of stealing money out of letters, and of se-

veral other acts of delinquency ; of which, however, he was not suspected till some time after he had quitted his master's service.

From Durham he went to Otley, but not being able to procure employment there, he proceeded to Rippon, where he was engaged as a waiter at the sign of the King's head. In about three months he robbed his master of thirteen pounds, and absconded. Going again to the place of his nativity, he learnt that an aunt lately deceased had bequeathed him twelve pounds ; and having received the legacy, and purchased some new apparel, set out for London, wherein a short time he spent all his money, in disorderly houses, among women of ill-fame. Being in circumstances of distress, he made application for relief to a relation, who behaved to him with great tenderness and generosity ; notwithstanding which he availed himself of an opportunity of robbing his benefactor of two silver spoons.

He offered the spoons for sale to a silversmith near Charing-cross ; but his honesty being suspected, a messenger was dispatched to inquire whether he lived at the place he had mentioned to the shop-keeper. Before the messenger's return Thompson effected his escape ; and it appeared that he had given a false direction. In a few days he was met near Exeter-change by the silversmith, who insisted upon his going home with him ; but being a man of an easy disposition, he was prevailed upon by the entreaties of the young villain to favour his escape.

He now returned to Otley, and a dancing meeting being held there one evening, he made one of the company : at this place he prevailed upon a young woman to consent to his partaking of her bed : but she dismissed him upon discovering that he was destitute of money. Thus disappointed, he returned to the house where he lodged, and broke open a box, whence he stole fifteen shillings.

Early the next morning he stole a horse, and rode to his late master's at Durham, where he said he was employed to go to Newcastle on some business of importance, and should return on the following day. The Inn-keeper believed his tale, and upon his repeating his visit the

the next day, gave him a hearty welcome, and expressed much pleasure at the seemingly favourable change in his situation. In the morning, however, the boy who had been with the mail to Darlington, informed Thompson that the hue-and-cry was after him on suspicion of horse-stealing. In consequence of this intelligence he took the road for Scotland, and selling the stolen horse at Berwick-upon-Tweed, proceeded on foot to Cockburn's-path, and hiring a horse there, rode to Dunbar, where having slept one night, he set out for Edinburgh in a post-chaise.

At Edinburgh he pretended to be servant to a military officer, and persuaded a young woman, who was servant at the inn where he lodged, to admit him to a share of her bed. In the morning she discovered that her box had been broken open, and her money, besides two gold rings bequeathed her by a relation, stolen thereout. She accused Thompson of the robbery, and threatened a prosecution; but was appeased upon his restoring the effects.

His next expedition was to Perth, where he engaged himself as a servant to a military officer. His master being ordered into Yorkshire upon the recruiting service, Thompson accompanied him: but thinking it unsafe to remain in a part of the country where he was well known, he stole a horse about eleven o'clock at night, and took the road to Nottingham. For this offence he was tried at the next assizes, and sentenced to die; but interest being made in his favour, he received a pardon on condition of transportation for fourteen years.

As he behaved in a remarkably decent and regular manner, the keeper of the prison granted him many indulgences, which he determined to seize an opportunity of making use of to his own advantage; and accordingly observing that on some occasion the maid-servant was intrusted with the keys, he seized her by surprise, and taking them from her recovered his liberty.

Upon his escape from prison he proceeded to London, where he enlisted into a regiment then abroad, and was conducted to the Savoy: but being soon after attacked by a fever, he was sent to an hospital. Being tolerably recovered in about two months, he deserted, and going to

Rochester enlisted into a regiment lying in that city. About five weeks after his arrival in Rochester, he robbed the waiter of the house where he was quartered, and again deserting travelled to Hatfield in Hertfordshire, where he enlisted into a regiment, from which he also deserted in about six weeks. He now went to Chichester, and having there entered into his majesty's service as a marine, was ordered on board a ship, lying at Portsmouth. In about two months he was ordered on shore, and quartered in Chichester, where he robbed his lodgings, and having stolen a mare belonging to a farmer rode towards the metropolis.

The farmer having a value for the beast hastened to London, expecting that she would be exposed for sale in Smithfield. He put up at the White Bear in Basinghall-street, and there found both his mare and the man who had stolen her. Thompson being taken before the Lord Mayor, was committed for trial at the Old Bailey, where he was convicted, and sentenced to die.

When he was confined in the cells of Newgate, he appeared to be struck with a consciousness of the enormity of his guilt. He constantly attended divine service in the chapel; and when visited by the ordinary behaved in a manner that evinced the sincerity of his repentance.

JOHN WHITMORE and JEREMIAH DAWES,

(Scholars of the University of Oxford,)

CONVICTED AND PUNISHED FOR SEDITION, NOV. 28, 1748.

Soon after the rebellion was crushed, great discontent was discovered in several private meetings, which, being of little import to the common-weal, were passed over, under the hopes that time would reconcile jarring opinions to the family on the throne. But it was little expected that the smallest spark of sedition should be fanned into a flame among students at a University, among men, half-grown in body, and still weaker in mind.

That such was actually the case, we shall show; and
to

to this end, give verbatim, the proclamation of the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford.

At a Meeting of the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houses, and Proctors of the University of Oxford, on Monday, April 11, 1748.

“Whereas there have been lately some very tumultuous disturbances and outrages committed in the public streets of Oxford, by young scholars of the University, particularly on the 23d of February last past, amounting to a notorious insult on his Majesty’s crown and government, and in utter contempt of the wholesome laws and discipline of this University, and the Governors thereof; We, the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houses, and Proctors, this day assembled, think it incumbent on Us, to make this public declaration of our sincere abhorrence and detestation of such factions and seditious practices, as also of our firm resolution to punish all offenders (of what state or quality soever they are) who shall be duly convicted thereof, according to the uttermost severity and rigour of our statutes.

“And whereas many of the disorders complained of have been chiefly and immediately owing to scholars having private entertainments, and company at their chambers, which are generally attended with great intemperance and excess, and always with expence, that are both needless and hurtful; We therefore earnestly recommend it to all Bursars, Deans, Censors, and Tutors, to prevent, as much as in their power, this unstatutable and mischievous practice, and to oblige all persons to attend in the common Hall, at the usual hours of dinner and supper.

“And as these irregularities are too frequently practised (as we have reason to believe) at coffee-houses, cook-shops, and victualling-houses, all Proctors and Magistrates of the University, are strictly required to be vigilant and careful in visiting all such public-houses and places of entertainment and idleness, and in duly punishing all young scholars, whom they shall, at any time find at such places; and likewise laying a mulct on the masters or mistresses of such houses, for receiving and entertaining

taining such scholars, contrary to the known rules, orders, and statutes, of the University.

“ Given under our hand the day and year above-mentioned.

“ J. PURNELL, Vice-Chancellor.”

In consequence of this proclamation several of these beardless striplings of sedition were apprehended, and removed to the Court of King's Bench, at Westminster, to take their trial, before a jury of their country, and John Whitmore and Jeremiah Dawes were found guilty. Charles Luxmore, after a trial of eight hours, was acquitted.

On Monday, November 28, 1748, these two scholars were brought up to the bar of the Court of King's Bench, to receive sentence, which was, “ To be fined five nobles each, to suffer two years' imprisonment in the King's Bench prison, and to find two sureties for their good behaviour for seven years, themselves to be bound in 500l. and their securities in 250l. each ; and that they immediately walk round Westminster Hall, with a label affixed to their foreheads, denoting their crime and sentence, and to ask pardon of the several courts.”

They accordingly were each labelled on the forehead, and led round the Hall, stopping at each court, to solicit pardon ; and then sent to prison.

The Thief, the Priests, and the great King of Prussia.

An Anecdotal Fact, and a touch at Superstition.

TO this monarch have many good sayings been ascribed ; for many noble and generous deeds has he been accredited ; and more is yet due to his memory than comes to the share of conscience in a whole batch of Buonaparte's kings.

“ A Prussian soldier on duty, in a small garrison town in Silesia, being suspected of making free with some offerings made by pious Catholics to the Blessed Virgin, was watched and detected, and two silver hearts were found upon him, for which he was sentenced to die. The man
pleaded

pleaded innocence, and insisted that the Virgin, in pity to his poverty, had appeared to him, and ordered him to take the two pieces. And on this plea he appealed to the King, who, on the soldier's representation, consulted with the ablest of the Roman Catholic divines, if they thought such a miracle impossible, who unanimously declared, that the case was extraordinary, but not impossible.

“ On which his Majesty wrote, with his own hand, words to the following effect :

“ The convict cannot justly be put to death, because he owes the present of the two pieces of silver to the bounty of the Blessed Virgin ; and the divines of his religion are unanimously of opinion, that the miracle wrought in his favour is not impossible ; but have strictly forbid him to receive any more such presents from any saint whatever.

“ FREDERICK.”

JOHN YOUNG,

(A brave Soldier of Fortune, who, through Avarice, brought himself to the Gallows.)

EXECUTED AT EDINBURGH, DEC. 19, 1748, FOR FORGERY.

“ Man wants but little here below,
“ Nor wants that little long.”

WE have not named a more extraordinary case than this of Serjeant-major and Pay-master Young. The methods he took to avoid his fate, and the desperate resistance he made against being carried to execution, are, we believe, unparalleled in criminal chronology. His services to the state could not, however, palliate his crime ; which shut out to his sovereign every avenue of mercy.

He was born of a protestant family at Belfast in Ireland and received a liberal education. At the usual time of life, he was apprenticed to a linen-draper, residing in the town where he was born. Having served about three years, his master died ; and as the widow declined business, he engaged

gaged as clerk to a wholesale dealer, whose goods were principally sent to the London market and Chester-fair.

He remained with his employer till his arrival at manhood ; but at length absconded, in consequence of one of his master's servant-maids proving with child by him. He intended to settle in Dublin, but in his way to that city he met with a recruiting party belonging to the fourth regiment of foot, who urged him to drink till he became intoxicated, and then prevailed upon him to enlist.

Young being handsome in person, and accomplished in manners, was soon distinguished by his officers, who upon the first vacancy promoted him to be a serjeant. He marched from Tournay to join the regiment at Ghent in Flanders, and arrived but a few days preceding that on which was fought the terrible battle of Fontenoy. His behaviour in that action was greatly commended by his officers, who upon the return of the regiment to Ghent conferred upon him many instances of particular respect, and appointed him pay-master to the company to which he belonged.

The regiment in which Young was a serjeant was one of those ordered into Scotland for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion, which broke out soon after the battle of Fontenoy ; but as a considerable loss of private men had been sustained, he was ordered to go upon the recruiting service to Chester, Manchester, Liverpool, and other places.

The recruits engaged by Young were paid the bounty-money without the least deduction, and he would not encourage them to spend any part of it in an extravagant or useless manner. In the space of four months he raised an hundred and fifty men ; and it is presumed that the strict integrity of his conduct greatly promoted his success. Upon joining his regiment in Scotland, his officers advanced him to the post of serjeant-major, as a reward for his services. At the battle of Falkirk he put several of the rebels to death with his halbert, and behaved in other respects with remarkable intrepidity.

Upon the command of the army, being resumed by the duke of Cumberland, the regiment to which Young belonged was ordered to march to the North. On account
of

of the singular bravery they displayed at the battle of Culloden, and the great slaughter of men, this regiment was not ordered to return to Flanders, but permitted to remain in Scotland.

Upon tranquillity being re-established in the Highlands, the fourth regiment was appointed to perform duty in Edinburgh castle, and Young was dispatched to Bristol, upon a recruiting expedition. He enlisted a considerable number of men at Bristol, and on his return to Scotland his officers complimented him with a handsome present. He was now sent to raise recruits in Yorkshire; and while at Sheffield, in that county, he engaged in a criminal intercourse with the wife of an innkeeper, who, when he was preparing to depart, secreted property to a considerable amount, and followed her lover to Scotland. In a short time the innkeeper came to Edinburgh in search of his wife, and complained in passionate terms of the cruel and treacherous treatment he had received. The nature of his connection with the woman being made public, Young appeared to be greatly disconcerted whenever he met with persons to whom he supposed the matter had been communicated; but, in justice to his character, we must observe that, so far from encouraging the woman to rob her husband, he was entirely ignorant of every thing relating to that matter, till her husband's arrival at Edinburgh. Notwithstanding the above affair, Young was still held in much esteem by his officers; and in a short time the regiment was ordered to proceed to the North, and remained in the royal barracks at Inverness for about a twelvemonth.

Young being both serjeant-major and pay-master, many notes on the bank of Scotland necessarily came into his possession. While looking over some of these notes in the guard-room, a man named Parker, who he had enlisted in England, observed, that if he had a few tools he could engrave a plate for counterfeiting the notes, on the Edinburgh bank. Young seemed to give but little attention to what the other said; but took him to an ale-house on the following day, and requested an explanation as to the manner of executing the scheme he had suggested. Parker informed him that, besides engraving an

exact resemblance of the letters and figures, he could form a machine for printing such notes, as should not be known from those of the Scotch bank.

In short, Young hired a private apartment for Parker, and supplied him with every utensil necessary for carrying the iniquitous plan into effect; and, in a short time, some counterfeit notes were produced, bearing a near resemblance to the real ones. Upwards of six months elapsed before the fraud was detected.

Orders being issued for the regiment to march to England, Young determined to procure cash for as many notes as possible previous to his departure from Inverness, knowing that in the Southern parts, the forgery would be liable to immediate detection. With this view, he applied to Mr. Gordon, who was concerned in the stocking manufactory at Aberdeen, and prevailed upon him to give sixty pounds in cash for notes expressing to be of the same value.

On his journey from Inverness, Mr. Gordon parted with several of the notes at different places; but upon reaching Aberdeen, an advertisement in the newspapers, in the name of the governors of the bank at Edinburgh, convinced him that he had been deceived. In consequence of this, Mr. Gordon wrote to the sheriff of Inverness, who immediately took Young into custody, and found three hundred notes, and the copper-plate from which they had been printed, in his possession. Parker was admitted an evidence for the crown, and Young was removed to Edinburgh for trial before the high court of justiciary. After a trial that lasted a whole day, Young was pronounced to be guilty, and sentenced to suffer death.

While this malefactor was under confinement, he would not consent to be visited by the clergy, though several, from motives of humanity, were desirous of using their endeavours to prepare him for eternity. He was informed by his fellow-prisoners, that if he could procrastinate his execution beyond the appointed time, his life would of necessity be preserved; for that the crown law of Scotland declared that condemned prisoners should be executed between two and four o'clock on the days expressed.

expressed. Being ignorant of the law, the unhappy man was amused by this story ; and hoped to escape punishment by the following means ; he secured the strong iron door of the room wherein he was confined, in such a manner that when the gaoler came in order to conduct him to the place of execution, he could not gain admittance.

Upwards of fifty carpenters, smiths, masons, and other artificers, were sent for to open a passage, but they all declined undertaking a business which they deemed to be impracticable ; and they were unanimously of opinion that an aperture could not be made in the wall without endangering the whole fabric.

Matters being thus circumstanced, the lord-provost and the rest of the magistrates assembled at the prison ; and, after long debates, it was determined to form an opening to the room by breaking through the floor of that immediately above.

The opening being made, the prisoner leaped up, and seizing a musket from one of the city guards, declared with an oath, that if any man attempted to molest him, he would immediately dash out his brains. Six of the soldiers, however, suddenly descended, and one of them received a terrible blow from the prisoner ; but he was immediately after secured by the other five, and executed.

BENJAMIN TAPNER, JOHN COBBY, JOHN HAMMOND, WILLIAM JACKSON, WILLIAM CARTER, RICHARD MILLS, THE ELDER, AND RICHARD MILLS, THE YOUNGER, (FATHER AND SON,)

(Smugglers and Murderers of the most barbarous Description,)

EXECUTED AT COLCHESTER, JUNE 18, 1749.

——— “ O what are these !

“ Death’s ministers, not men, who thus deal death,

“ Inhumanly to man, and multiply

“ Ten thousand fold the sin of him who slew

“ His brother ; for of whom such massacre

“ Make they but of their brethren, men of men.”

Paradise Lost.

WHILE London and its environs were, about this time, beset with gangs of highwaymen, pickpockets, and swindlers,

swindlers, the country was infested with leagues of villains not less dangerous, and much more cruel. These were fellows who preyed upon the public, by defrauding the revenue, in landing goods without a regular entry and payment of the duty. All mercantile nations have regulations of this nature: and indeed they are, in some measure, necessary for the regulation and protection of commerce, which in Britain is the main spring of the constitution.

The smugglers, on the sea-coast, formerly went in parties sufficiently strong to oppose the officers of the excise; and sometimes even to menace parties of the military, sent to apprehend them. Whenever a custom-house officer unfortunately fell into their hands, he was barbarously and cruelly tortured, and often murdered. Such a cruel murder as this we are about to detail, is not to be found in these volumes; and we much question whether the annals of Europe can furnish a parallel.

The two unfortunate sufferers who were murdered by this desperate gang were William Galley the elder, a custom-house officer in Southampton, and Daniel Chater, a shoemaker of Fording-bridge. These men having been sent to give information, respecting some circumstances attending the daring burglary into the custom-house, at Poole, and not returning to their respective homes, a suspicion arose that they had been way-laid, and murdered by the smugglers; and a search for them was therefore instituted.

Those employed for this purpose, after every inquiry, could hear no certain tidings of them, for fear of the smugglers' resentment silencing such inhabitants on the road over which they had carried the unfortunate men, as were not in connection with them. At length, a Mr. Stone, following his hounds, came to a spot which appeared to have been dug not long before, and from the publicity of the circumstances of the men above-mentioned being missed, he conjectured that there they might have been buried, and thereof he gave immediate information. Upon digging there, nearly seven feet in the earth, were found the remains of Galley, but in so putrid a state, as not to be known, except by the clothes. The search after Chater was

was now pursued with redoubled vigilance, and he was found in a well, six miles distant from Galley, in Harris Wood, near Lady-Holt-Park, with a quantity of stones, wooden rails, and earth, upon him.

Benjamin Tapner, John Cobby, John Hammond, William Carter, Richard Mills the elder, and Richard Mills the younger, were indicted for the murder of Daniel Charter; the three first as principals, and the others as accessories before the fact; William Jackson and William Carter were indicted for the murder of William Galley.

Benjamin Tapner was a native of Aldington, in Sussex, and worked for some time as a bricklayer; but being of an idle disposition, he soon quitted his business and associated with a gang of smugglers, who had rendered themselves formidable to the neighbourhood, by their lawless depredations.

John Cobby was an illiterate country fellow, the son of James Cobby, of the county of Sussex, labourer; and joined the smugglers a little time before he was thirty years of age.

John Hammond was a labouring man, born at Berstead, in Sussex, and had been a smuggler some time before he was apprehended for the above-mentioned murders, which was when he was almost forty years old. William Jackson was a native of Hampshire, and had a wife and large family. He was brought up to the business of husbandry; but the hope of acquiring more money in an easier way induced him to engage with the smugglers, which at length ended in his ruin.

William Carter, of Rowland's Castle, in Hampshire, was the son of William Carter, of Eastmean, in the same county, thatcher. He was about the age of thirty-nine, and had practised smuggling a considerable time before the perpetration of the fact which led to his destruction.

Richard Mills, the elder, was a native of Trotton in Sussex, and had been a horse-dealer by profession; but it is said, that a failure in that business induced him to commence smuggler, and he had been long enough in that illicit practice to become one of the most hardened of the gang.

Richard Mills, the younger, lived at Stedham, in Sussex,

sex, and for some time followed his father's profession of horse-dealing ; but, unfortunately, making a connection with the smugglers, he came to the same ignominious end as his companions, in the thirty-seventh year of his age.

The two men, Galley and Chater, went on Sunday Feb. 14, 1748, to major Batten, a justice of the peace at Stanstead in Sussex, with a letter written by Mr. Shear, collector of the customs at Southampton, requesting him to take an examination of Chater, concerning one Diamond, or Dymar, who was committed to Chichester gaol, on suspicion of being one who broke the King's warehouse at Poole. Chater was engaged to give evidence, but with some reluctance, having declared that he saw Diamond, and shook hands with him, who, with many others was coming from Poole loaded with tea, of which he threw him a bag. Having passed Havant, and coming to the New Inn, at Leigh, they inquired their way, when George Austin, his brother, and brother-in-law, said that they were going the same road, and would accompany them to Rowland's Castle, where they might get better directions, it being just by Stanfield park.

A little before noon they came to the White Hart at Rowland's Castle, kept by Elizabeth Payne, widow, who had two sons, blacksmiths, in the same village. After some talk she told George Austin privately, she was afraid that these two strangers were come to hurt the smugglers. He said, No, sure, they were only carrying a letter to major Batten. Upon this she sent one of her sons for William Jackson and William Carter, who lived near her house. Meanwhile Chater and Galley wanted to be going, and asked for their horses : but she told them, that the major was not at home, which, indeed, was true.

As soon as Jackson and Carter came, she told them her suspicions with the circumstance of the letter. Soon after she advised George Austin to go away lest he should come to some harm ; he did so, leaving his brothers.

Payne's other son went and fetched in William Steele, Samuel Downer, otherwise Little Samuel, Edmund Richards,

chards, and Henry Sheerman, otherwise Little Harry, all smugglers belonging to the same gang.

After they had drank a little while, Carter, who had some knowledge of Chater, called him into the yard, and asked him where Diamond was. Chater said, he believed he was in custody, and that he was going to appear against him, which he was sorry for, but could not help it. Galley came into the yard to them, and asking Chater why he would stay there? Jackson, who followed him, said, with an horrid imprecation, What is that to you? and immediately struck him a blow in the face which knocked him down, and set his nose and mouth a bleeding. Soon after they all came into the house, when Jackson, reviling Galley, offered to strike him again, but one of the Paynes interposed.—Galley and Chater now began to be very uneasy, and wanted to be going; but Jackson, Carter, and the rest of them, persuading them to stay and drink more rum, and make it up, for they were sorry for what had happened, they sat down again; Austin and his brother-in-law being present. Jackson and Carter desired to see the letter, but they refused to show it. The smugglers then drank about plentifully, and made Galley and Chater fuddled; then persuaded them to lie down on a bed, which they did, and fell asleep; the letter was then taken away, and read; and the substance of it greatly exasperating them, it was destroyed.

One John Royce, a smuggler, now came in; and Jackson and Carter told him the contents of the letter, and that they had got the old rogue the shoemaker at Fordingbridge, who was going to inform against John Diamond, the shepherd, then in custody at Chichester. Here William Steele proposed to take them both to a well, about two hundred yards from the house, and to murder and throw them in.

This proposal was not taken, as they had been seen in their company by the Austins, Mr. Garnet, and one Mr. Jenks, who was newly come into the house to drink. It was next proposed to send them to France; but that was objected against, as there was a possibility of their coming over again. Jackson's and Carter's wives being present, cried out, Hang the dogs, for they come here to hang
you

you. It was then proposed and agreed, to keep them confined till they could know Diamond's fate, and whatever it was, to treat these in the same manner ; and each to allow threepence a week towards keeping them.

Galley and Chater continuing asleep, Jackson went in, and began the first scene of cruelty ; for having put on his spurs, he got upon the bed, and spurred their foreheads, to wake them, and afterwards whipped them with a horse-whip ; so that when they came out they were both bleeding. The abovesaid smugglers then took them out of the house, but Richards returned with a pistol, and swore he would shoot any person who should mention what had passed.

Meanwhile the rest put Galley and Chater on one horse, tied their legs under the horse's belly, and then tied both their legs together ; they now set forward, all but Race, who had no horse. They had not gone above two hundred yards before Jackson called out, Whip 'em, cut 'em, slash 'em, d—n 'em ; upon which all began to whip except Steele, who led the horse, the roads being very bad. They whipped them for half a mile, till they came to Woodash, where they fell off with their heads under the horse's belly ; and their legs, which were tied, appeared over the horse's back. Their tormentors soon set them upright again, and continued whipping them over the head, face, shoulders, &c. till they came to Dean, upwards of half a mile farther ; here they both fell again as before, with their heads under the horse's belly, which were struck at every step by the horse's hoofs.

Upon placing them again in the saddle they found them so weak, that they could not sit, upon which they separated them, and put Galley before Steele, and Chater before Little Sam, and then whipped Galley so severely, that the lashes coming upon Steele, at his desire they desisted. They then went to Harris's well, near Lady-Holt-Park, where they took Galley off the horse, and threatened to throw him into the well. Upon which he desired them to dispatch him at once, and put an end to his misery. No, says Jackson cursing, if that's the case, we have more to say to you ; then put him on a horse again, and whipped him over the Downs, till he was so weak, that he fell off ;
when

when they laid him across the saddle, with his breast downwards, and Little Sam got up behind him, and, as they went on, he squeezed Galley's testicles, so that he groaned with the agony, and tumbled off; being then put on astride, Richards got up behind him, but soon the poor man cried out, I fall, I fall, I fall; and Richards, pushing him, said, Fall and be d—n'd. Upon which he fell down; and the villains, thinking this fall had broke his neck, laid him again on the horse, and proposed to go to some proper place, where Chater might be concealed till they heard the fate of Diamond.

Jackson and Carter called at one Pescod's house, desiring admittance for two sick men; but he absolutely refused it.

Being now one o'clock in the morning, they agreed to go to one Scardefield's, at the Red Lion, at Rake, which was not far. Here Carter and Jackson got admittance, after many refusals. While Scardefield went to draw liquor, he heard more company come in; but, though they refused to admit him into the room, he saw one man stand up very bloody, and another lie as dead. They said they had engaged some officers, lost their tea, and several of them were wounded, if not killed.

Jackson and Little Harry now carried Chater down to one old Mills's, which was not far off, and chained him in a turf-house, and Little Harry staying to watch him, Jackson returned again to the company.—After they had drank gin and rum they all went out, taking Galley with them; Carter compelled Scardefield to show them the place where they used to bury their tea, and to lend them spades and a candle and lantern; there they began to dig, and it being very cold, he helped to make a hole, where they buried something that lay across a horse like a dead man.

They continued at Scardefield's, drinking all that day; and in the night went to their own homes, in order to be seen on Tuesday, agreeing to meet again upon Thursday, at the same house, and bring more of their associates. They met accordingly, and brought old Richard Mills, and his sons Richard and John, Thomas Stringer, John Cobby, Benj. Tapner, and John Hammond, who, with the former, made fourteen. They consulted now what was

to be done with Chater ; it was unanimously agreed that he must be destroyed. Richard Mills, jun. proposed to load a gun, clap the muzzle to his head, tie a long string to the trigger, then all to pull it, that all might be equally guilty of his murder. This was rejected, because it would put him out of his pain too soon ; and at length they came to a resolution to carry him up to Harris's well, which was not far off, and to throw him in.

All this while Chater was in the utmost horror and misery, being visited by one or other of them, who abused him both with words and blows. At last they all came, and Tapner and Cobby going into the turf-house, the former pulled out a clasp-knife, and said, with a great oath, Down on your knees, and go to prayers, for with this knife I'll be your butcher. The poor man knelt down ; and as he was at prayers Cobby kick'd him, calling him informing villain. Chater asking what they had done with Mr. Galley, Tapner, slashing his knife across his eyes, almost cut them out, and the gristle of his nose quite through ; he bore it patiently, believing they were putting an end to his misery : accordingly Tapner struck at him again, and made a deep cut in his forehead. Upon this old Mills said, Do not murder him here, but somewhere else. Accordingly they placed him upon a horse, and all set out together for Harris's well, except Mills and his sons, they having no horses ready, and saying, in excuse, That there were enough without them to murder one man. All the way Tapner whipped him till the blood came, and then swore that if he blooded the saddle he would torture him the more : as he could not stop his wounds from bleeding, this was an incredible instance of barbarity !

When they were come within two hundred yards of the well, Jackson and Carter stopped, saying to Tapner, Cobby, Stringer, Steele, and Hammond, " Go on and do your duty on Chater, as we have ours upon Galley." In the dead of the night of the 18th they brought him to the well, which was near 30 feet deep, but dry, and paled close round. Tapner having fastened a noose round Chater's neck, they bid him get over the pales to the well. He was going through a broken place ; but, though he was covered with blood, and fainting with the anguish of his wounds, they forced him to climb up, having the rope
about

about his neck, one end of which being tied to the pales, they pushed him into the well; but, the rope being short, he hung no further within it than his thighs, and, leaning against the edge, he hung above a quarter of an hour, and was not strangled. They then untied him, and threw him head foremost into the well. They tarried some time, and hearing him groan, they concluded to go to one William Comleah's, a gardener, to borrow a rope and ladder, saying, they wanted to relieve one of their companions, who had fallen into Harris's well. He said they might take them; but they could not manage the ladder in their confusion, it being a long one.

They then returned to the well; and still finding him groan, and fearing that he might be heard, so as to make a discovery, the place being near the road, they threw upon him some of the rails and gate-posts fixed about the well, also great stones; when, finding him silent, they left him.

Their next consultation was how to dispose of their horses, when they killed Galley's, which was grey, and took his hide off, cut it into small pieces, and hid them so as to prevent any discovery; but a bay horse that Chater rode on got from them.

This daring gang, now broken, a number of witnesses came forward on their trial, and two of their accomplices, being pardoned, were admitted evidence against them. The charge, in all its horrors, was fully proved; whereupon the judge, Sir Michael Foster, pronounced sentence on the convicts, in one of the most pathetic addresses that was ever heard; representing the enormity of the crime, and exhorting them to make immediate preparation for the awful fate that awaited them: adding, that "Christian charity obliges me to tell you, that your time in this world will be very short."

The heinousness of the crime of which these men had been convicted rendering it necessary that their punishment should be exemplary, the judge ordered that they should be executed on the following day; and the sentence was accordingly carried into execution against all but Jackson, who died in prison on the evening that he was condemned. They were attended by two ministers, and all but Mills and his son (who took no notice of each other,

other, and thought themselves not guilty, because they were not present at the finishing of the inhuman murder) showed great marks of penitence. Tapner and Carter gave good advice to the spectators, and desired diligence might be used to apprehend Richards, whom they charged as the cause of their being brought to this wretched end. Young Mills smiled several times at the executioner, who was a discharged marine, and, having ropes too short for some of them, was puzzled to fit them. Old Mills, being forced to stand tip-toe to reach the halter, desired that he might not be hanged by inches. The Mills's were so rejoiced at being told that they were not to be hanged in chains after execution, that death seemed to excite in them no terror; while Jackson was so struck with horror, at being measured for his irons, that he soon expired.

They were hanged at Chichester, on the 18th of January, 1749, amidst such a concourse of spectators as is seldom seen on occasions of a public execution.

Carter was hung in chains, near Rake, in Sussex; Tapner on Rook's-hill, near Chichester; and Cobby and Hammond at Cesley Isle, on the beach where they sometimes landed their smuggled goods, and where they could be seen at a great distance, East and West.

Jackson had lived some years a Roman Catholic; and, from the following Popish relic found in his pocket, there is but little doubt that he died such:—

Sancti tres reges,
Gaspar, Melchior, Belthazar,
Orate pro nobis, nunc et in hora
Mortis nostræ.

Ces billets ont touché aux trois tetes de
S. S. Rois a Cologne.

Ils sont pour des voyageurs contre les malheurs de chemins,
maux de tete, mal caduque, fievres, socellerie,
toute sorte de malefice, et mort subite.

The English of which is,

Ye three holy kings,
Gaspar, Melchior, Belthazar,
Pray for us, now and in the hour of death.
These papers have touched the three heads of
The holy kings of Cologne.

They

They are to preserve travellers from accidents on the road,
head-achs, falling-sickness, fevers, witchcraft,
all kinds of mischief, and sudden death.

The body of the above-mentioned Jackson was thrown into a hole, near the place of execution; as were the bodies of Mills, the father and son, who had no friends to take them away; and at a small distance from this spot is erected a stone, on which is the following inscription:—

Near this place was buried the body of William Jackson, who, upon a special commission of Oyer and Terminer, held at Chichester, on the 16th day of January, 1748-9, was, with William Carter, attainted for the murder of William Galley, custom-house officer; and who likewise was, together with Benjamin Tapner, John Cobby, John Hammond, Richard Mills the elder, Richard Mills the younger, his son, attainted for the murder of Daniel Chater; but dying in a few hours after sentence of death was pronounced upon him, he thereby escaped the punishment which the heinousness of his complicated crimes deserved, and which was, the next day, most justly inflicted upon his accomplices.

As a memorial to posterity, and a warning to this and
succeeding generations,
This stone is erected,
A. D. 1749.

USHER GAHAGAN and TERENCE CONNER,

MEN OF GREAT ERUDITION, YET EXECUTED FOR HIGH TREASON, IN
DIMINISHING THE CURRENT COIN OF THE REALM, FEB. 28, 1749.

WE have already accorded all the justice which our feeble pen would permit to the misfortunes of the poet Savage. Now come we to the more melancholy issue of the case of two gentlemen of equal education, and possessed of literary abilities, as we shall show by quoting from the prison muse, not greatly inferior to the son of Lord Rivers, and the worthless Countess of Macclesfield. What pity it is to see superior genius often lost to common

mon honesty ! How degraded do we find human nature, in the ignominious death of a fellow-mortal of high erudition ! Search the lower ranks of life, and how frequently do we find the most ingenious mechanic, half his time an idle drunkard, stimulated to the exertion of his superior abilities alone by the want of means to prolong his debauches ? We recollect an instance of this, related by a friend who formerly bore a commission in the regiment of militia in which it occurred.

In the ranks was a sottish fellow, named Powell, who had for several years gained the cordwainer's prize for the best boot. His name must be remembered by some of the sons of St. Crispin still living.

In a fit of intoxication he took the bounty offered by the regiment, then stationed in the country. It was immediately known that the prize boot-maker of London was among the recruits. The fashion of a lady's head-dress is, to them, not of more import than the boot to an officer. No sooner was the drilling probation over, than the commanders were ready to secure the workmanship of Powell. He was excused duty, as a soldier, in order to equip the feet and legs of his officers, *à la militaire*, in a superior manner to contending regiments.

A shop was provided for Powell, and he worked with an assumed consequence over his fellow-soldiers, until the colonel's boots were finished ; but, alas ! the reward of his labour laid him up in a state of intoxication ; and the officers, impatiently waiting their routine to be served, were neglected as long as the boot-maker was possessed of a shilling. Promises of reformation brought him more work—still payment produced the same effect. Castigation was then resorted to ; and, the more to mortify him, he was, under a guard, ordered to heel-tap his drummers' shoes, with an intimation that, on his failure, they would be ordered, with a cat-o'-nine-tails, to retaliate upon his back. In short, the London prize boot-maker could be brought to his lap stone, alone by compulsion.

The reader may smile at the comparison of a poet and a boot-maker ; but we draw this inference, that of the two, each doing his duty, the poor poet is infinitely a greater drudge than the meanest cobbler ; and, let us hint, much worse paid for his labours.

To

To return to our subject, we find that the truly unfortunate poets, Usher Gahagan and Terence Conner, were natives of Ireland. The former received his education in Trinity College, Dublin, a severer ordeal than the English universities, and was intended for the honourable profession of the law, in which several of his relations had become eminent.

He had been instructed by his parents in the Protestant religion ; but falling into company with some priests of the Romish persuasion, they converted him to their faith, which was a principal obstacle to his future advancement in life ; for as no gentleman can be admitted a counsellor at law without taking the oaths of supremacy and adjuration, and as Mr. Gahagan's new faith prevented his complying with these terms, he declined any further prosecution of his legal studies.

His parents and other relations were greatly offended with his conduct ; and those who had particularly engaged themselves for the advancement of his fortune forbade him to visit them, through indignation at the impropriety of his behaviour.

Thus reduced to an incapacity of supporting himself, he sought to relieve his circumstances by a matrimonial scheme ; and having addressed the daughter of a gentleman, he obtained her in marriage, and received a good fortune with her ; but, treating her with undeserved severity, she was compelled to return to the protection of her relations.

His conduct having now rendered him obnoxious to his acquaintance in Dublin, he quitted that city and repaired to London, with a view of supporting himself by his literary abilities.

On his arrival in the metropolis, he made some connexions with the booksellers, and undertook to translate Pope's Essay on Man into Latin ; but, becoming connected with some women of abandoned character, he spent his time in a dissipated manner, and thus threw himself out of that employment which might have afforded him a decent support.

He now made an acquaintance with an Irishman, named Hugh Coffey, and they agreed on a plan for the diminution of the current coin. At this time Gahagan
had

had a lodger named Conner (whose case will be seen in the sequel of this account); and, it being agreed to receive him as a partner in this iniquitous scheme, they procured proper tools; and having collected a sum of money, they filed it and put it off; and, procuring more, filed that also, and passed it in the same manner.

Having continued this business some months, during which they had saved a sum of money, they went to the bank, and got some Portugal pieces, under pretence that they were intended for exportation to Ireland. Thus they got money repeatedly at the bank; but at length one of the tellers, suspecting their business, communicated his suspicion to the governors, who directed him to drink with them, as the proper method to discover who they were, and what was their employment.

In pursuance of this order, he, on their next appearance, invited them to drink a glass of wine at the Crown tavern, near Cripplegate; to which they readily agreed, and met him after the hours of office.

When the circulation of the glass had sufficiently warmed them, Gahagan, with a degree of weakness that is altogether astonishing, informed the teller that he acquired considerable sums by filing gold, and even proposed that he should become a partner with them. The gentleman seemed to accede to the proposal; and, having learned where they lodged, acquainted the cashiers of the bank with what had passed.

On the following day Coffey was apprehended; but Gahagan and Conner, being suspicious of the danger of their situation, retired to a public house, called Chalk Farm, a little way out of the road from London to Hampstead, where they carried their implements for filing; but Coffey having been admitted an evidence, it was not long before the place of their retreat was known, on which they were apprehended and lodged in Newgate.

Terence Conner was a native of Ireland, and had received a most liberal education. It is recorded of him, that he was so perfectly well read in Roman history, as to be able to turn to any part of it, without the assistance of an index. He was, by birth, heir to a considerable fortune; but his father dying without a proper adjustment of his

his affairs, some intricate law-suits were the consequence ; so that the whole estate was only sufficient to discharge the demands of the gentlemen of the long robe.

Conner, being reduced in circumstances, came to London, and, becoming acquainted with Gahagan and Coffey, was concerned in diminishing the coin, as above mentioned.

On their trial, the evidence of Coffey was positive ; and, being supported by collateral proofs, the jury could not hesitate to find them guilty, and they received sentence of death.

After conviction, the behaviour of these unhappy men was strictly proper for their circumstances : they were extremely devout, and apparently resigned to their fate ; but, anxious to evade the ignominy that attended them, they did not neglect those means which they thought might have the remotest tendency to their preservation : in consequence of which, Mr. Gahagan wrote the former, and Mr. Conner the latter, of the following copies of verses.

Having now gone over the case of these unhappy men, we proceed to give the reader a rich but melancholy proof of their respective abilities as poets, written in Newgate ; yet their lays, loyal and elegant as they appeared, did not rescue them from a death of disgrace.

To his Royal Highness Prince George, Duke of Cornwall, and eldest Son to his Royal Highness Frederick, Prince of Wales, (afterwards King George the Third,) on his acting the Part of Cato, at Leicester House.

TUUS JAM REGNAT APOLLO.

HAIL, little Cato ! taught to tread the stage,
Awful as Cato of the Roman age ;
How vast the hopes of thy maturer years,
When in the boy such manly power appears !
Say, what spectator but did pleas'd admire
To hear thee talk with sage Catonic fire ?
A tender stripling of the royal blood,
Breathing his country's liberty and good !
What rapture warm'd thy princely father's breast,
What joy thy scepter'd grandsire then confest,
Beholding thee, a Tyro from the school,
Foreshow the wisdom of thy future rule ;

And Ned, thy little Juba, play his part,
Half form'd by Nature in Bellona's art!

Well may we say, when royalty thus deigns
To grace the stage, that now Apollo reigns,
Whose tuneful handmaids should exult to see
Such regal honours done to them in thee:
Nor less thy shade, O Addison! rejoice,
To find that Cato made a Cato's choice.

Lo! Britain glories in thy years to trace
A buskin'd hero of the Brunswick race;
Her stage now trod (tho' Collier once thy scorn)
By destin'd monarchs, and high princes born:
Augusta too, some king's allotted bride,
Adorns her scenes and gives an equal pride.
But oh! when thou shalt once thy sceptre wield,
And Edward shine dread leader of the field;
When thou a Cato's, he a Juba's task,
Perform in real action, not in mask;
At home, when thou'lt thy country's good enhance,
While he abroad shall stem the pride of France;
When thou'lt establish Europe's wish'd repose,
Returning, he the gates of Janus close;
Then, then, Britannia may with reason boast,
Nor think her blood or treasure fruitless lost.

Oh! may she hail (but late) the glorious day,
When, exercising thus imperial sway,
Of sire and grandsire's virtues thou possessest,
Shall gently rule, and make thy people bless'd;
When harass'd Europe, rescu'd from alarms,
Shall owe her rest to George, and Edward's arms.

Rous'd with the thought, and impotently vain,
I now would launch into a nobler strain;
But see! the captive Muse forbids the lays,
Unfit to stretch the merit I would praise:
Such at whose heels no galling shackles ring
May raise the voice, and boldly touch the string;
Cramp'd hand and foot, while I in gaol must stay,
Dreading each hour the execution-day.
Pent up in den, opprobrious alms to crave,
No Delphic cell, ye gods! nor Sybil's cave;
Nor will my Pegasus obey the rod,
With massy iron barbarously shod;
Thrice I essay'd to force him up the height,
And thrice the painful gyves restrain'd his flight.

So when a sickly snake attempts to creep,
Or climb some slippery rock, or ditches steep,
Scarce half her length advanc'd, she backward falls,
And in slow volumes languishingly crawls.

To her Grace the Duchess of Queensbury; a poetical Address, by Terence Conner, in the Cells of Newgate.

LATURUM MISERO TE MIHI REBAR OPEM.—*Ovid.*

THOU great protectress of the Æonian strain,
Support in each cotemporary reign;
Brightest devotress at the Delian shrine,
Oft sung and courted by the sacred Nine;
If e'er thy kindred, of immortal fame,
The Muses lov'd, nor scorn'd a poet's name;
If e'er thyself vouchsafed to touch the lyre,
And join'd with open voice the tuneful quire;
If on the canvass, to describe the face
With animated bloom and living grace,
To draw the vernal flower, and tinging shape,
The peach, the melon, and the ripen'd grape;
To mark each story, holy or profane,
Move in the landscape, and to vision plain;
If these, with courtly wit and eloquence,
Be gifts Apollo did to thee dispense,
(Which sure they are) in charity regard
The meanest of his sons, a captive bard;
Far, far, alas! from home and native clime,
The first, perhaps, that did in Newgate rhyme;
The first, perhaps, beneath his dreadful doom,
That ever mounted the poetic loom.

Oh! born thyself of high Pierian blood,
Boast of the times, nor yet more learn'd than good,
Display thy bounty where a life's at stake,
And save the wretched for the poet's sake;
The poet pent in narrow darkling cell,
With vagrants and banditties forc'd to dwell;
In pondrous gyves of iron rudely bound,
A stone his pillow, and his bed the ground;
One penny-loaf the banquet of a day,
And chilling water to dilute his clay;
Broke ev'ry morning of his painful rest,
The scorn of turnkeys, and the keeper's jest;
Sternly rebuk'd if he the least complains,
And menac'd with a double load of chains.
Thus day and night disconsolate I spend,
Unpitied, and debarr'd of every friend;
Deserted by the Muses as by men,
Save Elegeia's visits now and then;
Daughter of grief! and ever-plaintive Muse,
Taught only songs of sorrow to infuse:
Dire comfort! thankful yet am I, that she
Inspires these lines, O Queensbury! to thee.

Thou, then, from infant years brought up at courts,
Directress of their household and their sports;

The brilliant grace of both the Georges' age,
 In wit facetious, and in council sage ;
 Allow, as heretofore, the same access,
 Pity this bard, and banish his distress ;
 Maintain the glory of thy former days,
 And intercede to save a son of Gay's ;*
 Nor be it ever said, in British land,
 That a poor bard was mercilessly hang'd.

Gahagan, as we have already shown, was an excellent scholar. He was the editor of "Brindley's Edition of the Classics." He translated Pope's "Essay on Criticism," in Latin verse ; and "The Temple of Fame," and "The Messiah," when in prison ; which he dedicated to the Duke of Newcastle, then Prime Minister, in hopes of obtaining a pardon. Was it not, compassionate reader, a pity that such a life was not spared ? A cotemporary poet addressed to him the following lines :—

" Who without rapture can thy numbers read ?
 " Who hear thy fate, and sorrow not succeed ?
 " Who not condole thee betwixt fear and hope ?
 " Who not admire thee, thus translating Pope ?
 " Translating Pope in never-dying lays,
 " Bereft of books, of liberty, and ease ;
 " Translating Pope, beneath severest doom,
 " In numbers worthy old Augustan Rome,
 " Whose ablest sons might glory in thy strains,
 " Tho' sung in massy, dire, encumb'ring, chains."

BRIAN SEYMOUR,

EXECUTED AT EDINBURGH FOR MURDER COMMITTED DURING A STATE OF
 INTOXICATION, MARCH 2, 1749.

DRUNKENNESS is the parent of idleness ; for no man can apply himself to his trade either while he is drinking or when he is drunk. Part of his time is spent in what he calls jollity, and the remainder in what he terms imbecility.

When the drunkard is in the midst of his companions he is thoughtless of the consequences of neglecting his

* The Duchess of Queensbury was the patroness of Gay the poet.

employment ;

employment; and when he has overburdened himself with liquor he is too feeble and too stupid to follow it. Ruin awaits for a while his midnight orgies; but ere long he finds his money gone, his credit fled, and his innocent family consigned to the work-house, while the author of their misery seeks to replenish his glass by plunder, and, after a short course, ends his life in ignominy.

Brian Seymour was born at Waterford, in Ireland; and his father having served in the army many years, and being at length promoted to the post of a right-hand man, or, in a more military phrase, made a corporal, the son must also

“ Seek for honour, even in the cannon’s mouth.”

He enlisted in the sixth regiment of foot; and, soon afterwards embarking for Flanders, had a share in the memorable battle of Fontenoy.

The rebellion in 1745 occasioned his being sent to England, where he served under General Wade, who then commanded in Yorkshire; but, marching thence to Newcastle, Seymour had there a quarrel with a soldier, respecting a woman of ill fame; and, a duel ensuing, his antagonist was killed; but the troublesome situation of affairs induced the general to grant Seymour a free pardon, without a minute scrutiny into his conduct.

Proceeding to Scotland, this man was present at the battle of Culloden, where he behaved with singular courage; but the regiment in which he served, having been greatly injured, was ordered into winter-quarters at Edinburgh, where the indulgence of his irregular passions gave rise to the crime which cost him his life.

At this time it was customary for some of the ministers of the church of Scotland who were out of employment to marry people at ale-houses, in the same manner that the Fleet marriages were conducted in London. Sometimes people of fortune thought it prudent to apply to these marriage-brokers; but, as their chief business lay among the lower ranks of people, they were deridingly called by the name of “Buckle the Beggars.”

Most of these marriages were solemnized at public houses in the Cannongate; and Seymour happening to be
present

present when a couple came to be married, and no priest present, he whispered the landlady, that, if she would procure him a suit of black, he would officiate as the parson. The woman, unwilling to lose a customer, procured the clothes, and Seymour, being dressed in them, went into the room where the young couple waited, assuming the grave deportment of a real clergyman.

The lady who was to be married hinting that she did not think he was a minister, he solemnly averred that he was; and the marriage took place accordingly.

Before ten o'clock at night Seymour was obliged to return to the barracks in the castle; but by this time he was so much intoxicated, that he was prepared to affront every one he met. When he came to the Lawn-market, he ran against a gentleman's servant named Johnson, who, being irritated, struck Seymour a blow on the face, on which the latter drew his sword, and stabbed Johnson so that he instantly died, when the murderer put up his sword, and proceeded towards the castle: but a shoemaker, named Young, having observed what had passed, followed Seymour to the gate of the castle; but the clock striking ten at that instant, the draw-bridge was pulled up, so that Young could not be admitted for that night.

On the following morning Young went to the Lord Justice Clerk, and, informing him of what he knew of the transaction, offered his assistance in discovering the murderer: on which his lordship ordered an officer to attend him, and directed the governor to let him have a sight of all the soldiers.

At ten o'clock the men were drawn upon the parade; and Young, walking round the lines, fixed on Seymour as the man who had committed the murder; whereupon he was delivered up, to abide the determination of the laws.

On the trial, Young positively swore to the identity of the offender; and much other evidence arising to prove that he was the party, he was capitally convicted, and sentence of death was pronounced against him.

This offender denied his guilt for some time, and hinted that Young was perjured; but he afterwards became truly sensible of the enormity of his crime, and confessed it

it with all its aggravating circumstances. Two clergymen attended him to the place of execution, to which he walked, dressed in a shroud, and reading a religious book.

*JOHN COLLINGTON, and his Accomplice, JOHN
STONE,*

EXECUTED AT CANTERBURY, FOR SETTING FIRE TO A BARN ; A CRIME BY
THE LAW CALLED ARSON.

IN the history of Collington, to an uncommon share of depravity of mind, we find a frightful picture of a domestic tyrant. His mind must have been formed to baseness by the devil alone ; for he was, from his boyish days, at enmity with all mankind. As a man, he was cruel to his wife, an unfeeling scourge to his children, and a terror to his neighbours.

The father of John Collington was rector of Pluckley, near Sandwich, in Kent ; and the youth was qualified, by a most liberal education, and his great natural talents, to have made a very respectable figure in life ; but his passions were so violent, and his revenge so implacable, that all who knew him beheld him with horror.

He used to declare that he would be a sincere friend, but an inveterate foe ; and even while at school created such dissensions among the other scholars that he was held in universal contempt, and was discharged from more schools than one with marks of ignominy.

At length his father apprenticed him to a grocer in Newgate-street, London ; but he behaved in such a manner as to become an object of terror to his fellow-servants. The following circumstance, trifling as it is, will serve to mark his disposition : One of the maid-servants desiring him to fetch some mustard, he went out for that purpose : but, calling a coach at the door, he drove to Cheapside, purchased the mustard, and, on his return, paid the fare out of his master's money in the till. The master, astonished at his behaviour, demanded the reason of it ; when he gave for answer, that " his parents had not bound him apprentice to be an errand-boy."

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On another occasion he asked his master's permission to visit his relations for a fortnight, and his request was complied with. When the time of his departure arrived, his master being absent, he asked his mistress to give him leave to stay three weeks; to which she consented. But he returned not till the end of five weeks; and his master inquiring why he had been so long absent, Collington replied that he had allowed him a fortnight, and his mistress three weeks; so that he had not out-staid his time. This duplicity of conduct incensed the master so, that he gave up his indentures, and discharged him.

Having served the remainder of his apprenticeship with a grocer of Maidstone, he opened a shop at Rye, in Sussex, where he lived for some years; but his temper was so bad, that he fomented perpetual discord among his neighbours; in consequence of which law-suits arose, and scarce any one would deal with a man whom every one had reason to hate.

From this place he went to Charing, in Kent, where he likewise kept a shop a considerable time; but the same conduct which had rendered him an object of contempt at Rye made him equally obnoxious to the inhabitants of this latter place.

Collington had not been long in business before he married a young lady, with whom he received a considerable fortune, and by whom he had ten children, four of whom were living at the time of their father's fatal exit.

The conduct of this man towards his wife and children was the most extravagant that can be imagined. The six children who died he buried in his own garden; nor would he permit any of them to be baptized. He frequently beat his children in a barbarous manner; and when the mother interposed in their behalf, he used to confine her whole nights in a saw-pit.

Being remarkably fond of sporting, his wife, when big with child, requested that he would procure her a partridge; in consequence of which he went out, and shot several: but when the birds were dressed, and ready for the table, one of the children happening to offend him, he corrected it in so severe a manner as to endanger its life; and the mother interposing for the preservation of the
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the child, he was so enraged that he cut the partridges in pieces, and threw them to the cats and dogs.

This instance of worse than savage ferocity so affected his wife, that she fell into fits, and miscarried: but she had not been long recovered, when, on her interposing in behalf of one of the children, whom he was treating with severity, he threw her down stairs, and stamped on her breast, which gave rise to a cancer that occasioned her death.

Collington's father dying soon after this event, he succeeded to a good estate at Throwleigh, in Kent, to which place he removed, and took to the practice of exporting wool, contrary to law, for which he was prosecuted in the court of exchequer, and convicted to pay a large penalty; but he avoided payment, by having previously conveyed his estate to another, and then swearing that he was not worth five pounds.

This man, being passionately fond of hunting, was frequently prosecuted for offending against the game laws, by which he was put to almost continual expense.

Notwithstanding the treatment his first wife had received from him, he soon married a second, by whom he had six children; and four of these, besides the same number by the former marriage (as we have mentioned), were living at the time of his death.

At length his offences against the laws made for the preservation of game became so numerous, that the dowager countess of Rockingham built a cottage, in which she placed one of her servants as a spy over his conduct.

Collington, incensed by this circumstance, tempted a poor countryman to set fire to the cottage; but the man had courage and honesty enough to resist the temptation. Hereupon Collington took one of his servants, named Luckhurst, to Faversham, in Kent, at the time of the fair; and, on their way thither told him, he would give him half-a-guinea to fire the said cottage, which the man received, and promised to comply.

On the following day, when Luckhurst recollected the nature of the contract he had been making, his mind was so disturbed that he went to Collington, and offered back

the money, declaring that he would have no share in the transaction. Collington was so enraged that he threatened to destroy him, unless he kept the money and did as he had agreed ; the consequence of which was, the man fired the cottage at midnight, by which it was reduced to the ground.

Collington was so neglectful of his children that he would not buy them necessary apparel, so that they appeared like beggars ; nor would he even pay for their learning to read. The following is a striking proof of his want of humanity :—One of his sons, a boy 12 years old, having offended him, he confined him in a saw-pit, where he must have been starved, but that he was occasionally supplied with food by the humanity of the servants ; and for this conduct their brutal master turned them out of the house without paying what was due to them.

This inhuman father then refused to maintain his son, so that the child absolutely begged his bread in the neighbourhood ; but he had not wandered long in this manner, when Mr. Clarke, the churchwarden, received him into his house, and provided for him till the quarter-sessions, when he submitted the case to the consideration of the magistrates.

These gentlemen, having reflected that Mr. Collington was in affluent circumstances, gave directions that the child should be properly provided for, and issued a warrant for seizing on part of the father's effects, to defray the charge. This warrant was executed by a constable, whom Clarke attended : a circumstance which gave such offence to Collington, that he vowed revenge, and bade Clarke make his will.

After this he hired five fellows to go to Mr. Clarke's house, and demand the child, on pretence that he belonged to a ship ; but Mr. Clarke, having the magistrates' order for his proceedings, said he was willing to answer for his conduct before any justice of the peace. No sooner had he thus expressed himself than they beat him in the most violent degree, and threatened his instant destruction, unless he consented to accompany them.

These threats had such an effect, that he mounted a horse behind one of them ; but, as they were riding along, he

he jumped off, and ran into the court-yard of a gentleman, whose gate happened to stand open, while the other parties fired at him ; but he escaped unhurt. Here he remained till the following day, when he went to his own house, and thence to a magistrate, before whom he swore the peace against Collington ; on which the magistrate granted his warrant for the apprehension of the offender, who, refusing to give bail for his good behaviour, was lodged in the gaol of Canterbury.

During his confinement he continually threatened vengeance against Clarke ; and, to execute his purpose, he sent for a labouring man, named Stone, and the above-mentioned Luckhurst, and offered them a guinea each, on the condition of their setting fire to Mr. Clarke's barn, in which a considerable quantity of corn was deposited. The villains, agreeing to this bargain, fired the barn at midnight, and likewise a number of hay-ricks, all of which were destroyed.

Mr. Clarke, suspecting that Collington was the contriver of this horrid scheme, made application to a magistrate, who issued an order that the prisoner should be more closely confined, and that the gaol-keeper should take particular notice of his visitors. This precaution led to a discovery of the offenders ; for, Luckhurst coming to procure more money of Collington, he was taken into custody, and conducted before a justice of the peace, to whom he confessed the affair ; and, being admitted an evidence, Stone was soon taken up as one of the principals.

At the following assizes, held at Maidstone, Collington and Stone were brought to trial, when the former turned his back on the court with an air of such utter contempt, that the judge declared he had never been witness to such a scene of insolence.

The prisoners, being convicted on the fullest evidence, were carried back to Canterbury, where the debtors commiserated their unhappy circumstances ; but Collington made a jest of his situation, and swore he did not regard it, as he was certain of obtaining the royal mercy.

This hardened villain likewise encouraged Stone to hope for mercy, as he could get him included in the

pardon ; but the event proved how much he was mistaken in his conjecture.

Collington's wife, coming to visit him, was so affected with grief as to be unable to speak to him for a considerable time ; yet he was so hardened as not to feel for her situation, but bade her not give herself the least concern, as he was certain of getting a reprieve, and hoped to live to revenge himself on his enemies, even if he should be transported.

He frequently expressed himself in the most revengeful terms against his prosecutors ; and appeared, in other respects, so destitute of all the feelings of humanity, that his conduct surprised every one who was witness to it. Thus he spent his time without preparing for the sentence that he was to suffer ; and still boasting to his visitors that the rank of life he held, as a gentleman, would secure him a reprieve.

Luckhurst, who had been evidence against him, being apprehended for committing a robbery on the highway, Collington thought this a fair opportunity to solicit a reprieve, for which purpose he despatched an express to the Duke of Newcastle ; but the answer he received was, that he must not expect any favour, for that the gentlemen of the county had exerted their influence that the law might be permitted to take its course.

On being informed that the warrant for his execution was arrived, his boasted courage left him for a short time ; but, recollecting himself, he inquired if Stone was included in the warrant ; and, being answered in the affirmative, said he lamented his situation more than his own. After this he soon recovered his spirits, and still flattered himself with the hope of being pardoned.

The day preceding his execution, he was visited by his wife and several relations, who advised him to make a serious preparation for his approaching death, and asked him where he would be buried. This question inflamed all his passions, so that he swore he would not be hanged : but soon afterwards, calling for a glass of wine, he drank it, saying, " Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die."

On the following day Collington was conveyed to the
place

place of execution in a mourning coach, and Stone in a cart; and, both of them being placed under the gallows, Collington prayed with the minister, but declined making any speech to the surrounding multitude.

THE MELANCHOLY CASE OF
RICHARD COLEMAN,

WHO WAS EXECUTED ON KENNINGTON COMMON, IN SURREY, APRIL 12,
1749, ON A CHARGE OF MURDER, OF WHICH HE WAS INNOCENT.

IN our note of a case of Wood and Brown, we have already instanced the danger of identifying another, whom we have seen but casually, in the evidence given by Sir Thomas and Lady Davenport, who, with their servants, swore to the persons of those unfortunate men, as being those who had robbed them, when their mistake was discovered, by proving an alibi. We lament that, on the trial of Coleman, whom we shall hereafter find to have been innocent of the charge for which he suffered death, this defence did not succeed. Well may we exclaim, "Better that ninety-nine guilty men should escape than the innocent hundredth should suffer!"

Shocked at the fate of this man, we would again caution prosecutors against being too positive in their identity of the accused; and which, previous to their entering upon this melancholy case, we will accompany by another instance of the fallibility of human nature.

At the assizes for Surrey, held at Kingston, on the 2d of August, 1740, Bartholomew Greenwood, Esq. a gentleman of good private estate, and rider to the first troop of horse-guards, a place of about 200*l.* a year in value, was indicted for robbing — Wheatley, Esq., in a field near Camberwell, at half past nine, on the 5th of June, then last past.

Mr. Wheatley positively swore that the prisoner, Mr. Greenwood, was the identical man by whom he was robbed, at the time and place above mentioned. From the opinions which had been previously formed on the improbability

improbability of a gentleman of Mr. Greenwood's respectability being base enough to turn footpad, the trial engaged the general attention of the county. The prosecutor called a number of witnesses, as to his fortune and high character, which they testified in an eminent degree.

Mr. Greenwood, being called upon for his defence, set up an alibi; to substantiate which he called a number of witnesses, of equal credibility, who proved that he was in a different place at the time the robbery was sworn to have been committed. They gave a distinct detail, and adduced many corroborating circumstances, how and where he passed the day, until eleven at night. In addition to this, he called gentlemen of the first rank, and the officers of the regiment in which he served, in support of his character; which they completely established as a man of worth and probity.

The jury were convinced that the prosecutor had mistaken the prisoner, and instantly acquitted him.

Richard Coleman was indicted at the assizes held at Kingston, in Surrey, in March, 1749, for the murder of Sarah Green, on the 23d of July preceding; when he was capitally convicted.

Mr. Coleman had received a decent education, and was clerk to a brewer at the time the affair happened which cost him his life; and had a wife and several children, who were reduced to accept the bounty of the parish in consequence of his conviction.

The murdered person was Sarah Green, who, having been with some acquaintance to a bean-feast in Kennington-lane, staid to a late hour; and on her return towards Southwark she met with three men, who had the appearance of brewers' servants, two of whom used her in a manner so inhuman as to preclude description.

Such was the ill treatment she had received, that it was two o'clock in the morning before she was able to reach her lodgings; and on the following day was so ill, that she informed several people how she had been treated: on which she was sent to St. Thomas's hospital.

While in the hospital she declared that the clerk in Taylor's (then Berry's) brewhouse was one of the parties who had treated her in such an infamous manner; and
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it was supposed that Coleman was the person to whom she alluded.

Two days after the shocking transaction had happened, Coleman and one Daniel Trotman happened to call at the Queen's-head alehouse, in Bandy-leg-walk, when the latter was perfectly sober, but the former in a state of intoxication. Having called for some rum and water, Coleman was stirring it with a spoon, when a stranger asked him what he had done with the pig; meaning a pig that had been lately stolen in the neighbourhood. Coleman, unconscious of guilt, and conceiving himself affronted by such an impertinent question, said "D—n the pig! what is it to me?"

The other, who seems to have had an intention to insnare him, asked him if he did not know Kennington-lane? Coleman answered that he did, and added, "D—n ye, what of that?" The other then asked him if he knew the woman who had been so cruelly treated in Kennington-lane? Coleman replied, "Yes," and again said, "D—n ye, what of that?" The other man asked, "Was not you one of the parties concerned in that affair?" Coleman, who, as we have said, was intoxicated, and had no suspicion of design, replied, "If I had, you dog, what then?" and threw at him the spoon with which he was stirring the liquor. A violent quarrel ensued; but at length Coleman went away with Trotman.

On the following day, Coleman calling at the Queen's-head above mentioned, the landlord informed him how imprudently he had acted the preceding day. Coleman, who had been too drunk to remember what had passed, asked if he had offended any person; on which the landlord informed him of what had happened; but the other, still conscious of his innocence, paid no regard to what he said.

On the 29th of August, Daniel Trotman and another man went before Mr. Clarke, a magistrate in the Borough, and charged Coleman on suspicion of having violently assaulted and cruelly treated Sarah Green, in the Parsonage-walk, near Newington Church, in Surrey.

The magistrate, who does not seem to have supposed that

that Coleman was guilty, sent for him, and hired a man to attend him to the hospital where the wounded woman lay: and a person, pointing out Coleman, asked if he was one of the persons who had used her so cruelly. She said she believed he was; but, as she declined to swear positively to his having any concern in the affair, Justice Clarke admitted him to bail.

Some time afterwards Coleman was again taken before the magistrate, when, nothing positively being sworn against him, the justice would have absolutely discharged him; but Mr. Wynne, the master of the injured girl, requesting that he might once more be taken to see her, a time was fixed for that purpose, and the justice took Coleman's word for his appearance.

The accused party came punctually to his time, bringing with him the landlord of an alehouse where Sarah Green had drank on the night of the affair, with the three men who really injured her: and this publican, and other people, declared on oath that Coleman was not one of the parties.

On the following day Justice Clarke went to the hospital, to take the examination of the woman on oath. Having asked her if Coleman was one of the men who had injured her, she said she could not tell, as it was dark at the time; but, Coleman being called in, an oath was administered to her, when she swore that he was one of the three men that abused her.

Notwithstanding this oath, the justice, who thought the poor girl not in her right senses, and was convinced in his own mind of the innocence of Coleman, permitted him to depart, on his promise of bringing bail the following day to answer the complaint at the next assizes for Surrey; and he brought his bail, and gave security accordingly.

Sarah Green dying in the hospital, the coroner's jury sat to inquire into the cause of her death; and, having found a verdict of Wilful Murder against Richard Coleman, and two persons then unknown, a warrant was issued to take Coleman into custody.

Though this man was conscious of his innocence, yet, so great were his terrors at the idea of going to prison on such
such

such a charge, that he absconded, and secreted himself at Pinner, near Harrow on the Hill.*

King George the Second being then at Hanover, a proclamation was issued by the Lords of the Regency, offering a reward of 50*l.* for the apprehension of the supposed offender; and to this the parish of St. Saviour, Southwark, added a reward of 20*l.*

Coleman read the advertisement for his apprehension in the Gazette, but was still so thoughtless as to conceal himself; though perhaps an immediate surrender would have been deemed the strongest testimony of his innocence: he, however, caused the following advertisement to be printed in the newspaper:—

“I, Richard Coleman, seeing myself advertised in the Gazette, as absconding on account of the murder of Sarah Green, knowing myself not any way culpable, do assert that I have not absconded from justice; but will willingly and readily appear at the next assizes, knowing that my innocence will acquit me.”

Strict search being made after him, he was apprehended at Pinner, above mentioned, on the 22d of November, and lodged in Newgate, whence he was removed to the New Gaol, Southwark, till the time of the assizes at Kingston, in Surrey; when his conviction arose principally from the evidence of Trotman, and the declaration of the dying woman.

Some persons positively swore that he was in another place at the time the fact was committed: but their evidence was not credited by the jury, though it will be seen, in a subsequent part of this work, that it would have been happy if a proper attention had been paid to it.

After conviction Coleman behaved like one who was possessed of conscious innocence, and who had no fear of death for a crime which he had not committed.

He was attended at the place of execution by the Rev. Mr. Wilson, to whom he delivered a paper, in which he declared, in the most solemn and explicit manner, that he was altogether innocent of the crime alleged against

* A flight from justice is not always a proof of guilt, though too often, as in this case, so considered. The terrors of a prison must powerfully work on the mind of the innocent, perhaps in a greater degree than on the guilty.

him. He died with great resignation, lamenting only the distress in which he should leave a wife and two children.

The reader will hereafter find the particulars, which proved this unhappy man's innocence, in the trial of those who actually perpetrated the murder.

THOMAS KINGSMILL, FAIRALL, and PERIN,

(Three of the thirty Smugglers who broke open the Custom-house at Poole.)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, APRIL 26, 1749.

WE think the crime for which these desperate villains suffered the most daring of any committed by private individuals of our whole Calendar.

To break by force into so strong and national an office as a Custom-house does not, at all events, occur again in our pages.

The perpetrators were the remnant of the cruel gang that murdered the Custom-house officers, as we have already related, with all its shocking circumstances. Smuggling is now, thanks to the vigilance of our police, almost annihilated; but in the middle of the last century it was carried to an alarming length by large confederate bodies of villains, who menaced with death all who opposed their lawless practices. On the coast of Hampshire, Kent, Essex, and Sussex, the honest part of the community lived in constant dread of their depredations and cruelty.

Kingsmill was a native of Goodhurst, in Kent, and had passed some part of his life as a husbandman; but, having associated with the smugglers, he made no scruple of entering into the most hazardous enterprises; and became so distinguished for his courageous, or rather ferocious, disposition, that he was chosen captain of the gang; an honour of which he was so proud, that he sought every opportunity of exhibiting specimens of his courage, and put himself foremost in every service of danger.

Fairall

Fairall was a native of Horsendown-green, in Kent, and the son of poor parents, who were unable either to educate him, or to give him any regular employment by which he might obtain a livelihood. He began to associate with the smugglers while quite a boy, and was frequently employed by them to hold their horses; and, when he grew up to man's estate, he was admitted as one of the fraternity. He was so remarkable for his brutal courage, that it was not thought safe to offend him.

Having been taken into custody, and lodged in the New Gaol, Southwark, he made his escape from thence, and vowed vengeance against the magistrate who had granted the warrant for his apprehension; and, in consequence hereof, he and Kingsmill, and others of the gang, laid wait for the gentleman one morning when he left his house; but, not meeting with him then, they hid themselves under his park-wall, till his usual time of returning in the evening; but it happened that, on his return, he heard the voices of men, and, the night being very dark, he turned his horse, and went into his house by a private door, by which he avoided the dangerous snare that was laid for him.

Perin was a native of Chichester, in Sussex. Having served his time to a carpenter, he practised some years as a master, and was successful in trade; but a stroke of the palsy depriving him of the use of his right hand, he became connected with the smugglers, on whose behalf he used to sail to the coast of France, and purchase goods, which he brought to England; and in this capacity he proved very serviceable to the gang.

It is evident that these men must have greatly injured the revenue and the fair trader; for they had a number of warehouses in different parts of Sussex, for the concealment of their goods; and kept not less than fifty horses, some of which they sent loaded to London, and others to the fairs round the country.

Perin, being in France in the year 1747, bought a large quantity of goods, which he loaded on board a cutter, with a view to run them on the coast of Sussex; but, as several smuggling vessels were expected at this juncture, Captain Johnson, who commanded a cutter in the government's

government's service, received orders to sail in search of them.

In consequence hereof he sailed from Poole, and took the smuggling cutter above mentioned on the following day; but Perin and his accomplices escaped, by taking to their boat. Captain Johnson found the cargo to consist of brandy and tea to a very large amount, which he carried safe into the harbour of Poole.

Soon after this transaction, which happened in the month of September, the whole body of smugglers assembled in Charlton-park, to consult if there was any possibility of recovering the goods of which they had thus been deprived. After many schemes had been proposed and rejected, Perin recommended that they should go in a body, armed, and break open the Custom-house at Poole; and this proposal being acceded to, a paper was drawn up, by way of bond, that they should support each other; and this was signed by all the parties.

This agreement, which was filled with dreadful curses on each other in case of failure to execute it, was signed on the 6th of October; and, having provided themselves with swords and fire-arms, they met on the following day; and, having concealed themselves in a wood till the evening, they proceeded towards Poole, where they arrived about eleven at night.

As soon as they got thither, they sent Willis and Stringer, two of the gang, to observe if there were any persons watching near the Custom-house. Willis soon came back, and informed them that he thought it would not be safe to make the attempt, as a sloop of war lay opposite the quay, so that she could point her guns against the door of the Custom-house. On this the body of the smugglers were for desisting from the enterprise; when Kingsmill and Fairall addressed them, saying, "If you will not do it, we will do it ourselves;" but these words were no sooner spoken, than Stringer came back, and told them that it would be impossible for the sloop to bring her guns to bear, on account of the ebb tide.

Animated by this intelligence, they rode to the sea-coast, where Perin and another of the gang took care of their horses, while the main body of them went back to the

the Custom-house; in their way to which, meeting with a boy, they took him with them, to prevent his alarming the inhabitants.

Having forced the door open with hatchets and other instruments, they carried off the smuggled goods, with which they loaded their horses, and, travelling all night, stopped in the morning at a place named Fording's-bridge.

The number of smugglers were thirty, and their horses thirty-one. Continuing their journey to a place named Brook, they divided the booty into equal shares, and then departed, each to his own house.

This daring transaction being represented to the secretaries of state, King George the Second gave orders for issuing a proclamation, with a reward for the apprehension of the offenders: yet it was a considerable time before any of them were taken into custody; some of them being concerned in the murder of Chater and Galley, of which we have already given an account; and others escaping to France.

At length two of the smugglers, who had been evidences against those hanged at Chichester, gave intelligence of the usual place of meeting of the others; in consequence of which Fairall, Kingsmill, Perin, and another, named Glover, were taken into custody, and conducted to Newgate.

When they were brought to trial, the evidences, whose names were Raise and Steel, confirmed the particulars which we have above recited: in consequence of which the prisoners, who could not disprove the testimony, were capitally convicted, and received sentence of death; but the jury recommended Glover as an object of the royal clemency.

Fairall behaved most insolently on his trial, and threatened one of the witnesses who swore against him. After conviction, Glover exhibited every proof of penitence; but the rest were totally hardened in their guilt, and insisted that they had not been guilty of any robbery, because they only took goods that had once belonged to them.

Orders were given that Fairall and Kingsmill should be

be hung in chains, but it was permitted that the body of Perin should be delivered to his friends; and, the latter lamenting the fate of his associates, Fairall said, "We shall be hanging up in the sweet air when you are rotting in your grave;" so hardened and unfeeling was the heart of this man.

Their friends being permitted to see them on the night before they suffered, a pardon was brought for Glover while they were in discourse together; and a few days afterwards he obtained his liberty. Fairall kept smoking with his acquaintance till he was ordered by the keeper to retire to his cell, a circumstance that much enraged him; on which he exclaimed, "Why in such a hurry? cannot you let me stay a little longer with my friends?—I shall not be able to drink with them to-morrow night."

On the following day Perin was carried to the place of execution in a mourning-coach, as were the two others in a cart, with a guard of horse and foot soldiers. The behaviour of Fairall and Kingsmill was remarkably undaunted; but all of them joined in devotion with the Ordinary of Newgate when they came to the fatal tree.

The bodies of Kingsmill and Fairall were hung in chains in the county of Kent.

*SAMUEL COUCHMAN and JOHN MORGAN,
Lieutenants of Marines, THOMAS KNIGHT, Car-
penter, and others,*

(Part of the Crew of His Majesty's Ship Chesterfield,)

SHOT AT PORTSMOUTH, FOR MUTINY, JULY 14, 1749.

THE Chesterfield man of war, under the command of Captain O'Brian Dudley, was stationed off Cape-Coast Castle, on the coast of Africa, when a dangerous mutiny broke out among the crew, of whom the above-named officers were the leaders. They were charged with "exciting and encouraging mutiny, and running away with his Majesty's ship Chesterfield, on the 10th day of October, 1748, from the coast of Africa, leaving their captain,

captain, two lieutenants, with other officers, and some seamen, on shore.”

Hereupon a court-martial was held on board his Majesty's ship *Invincible*, of which Sir Edward Hawke, of glorious memory, was president.

The first evidence called in support of the prosecution was Mr. Gasterin, the late boatswain of the *Chesterfield*, who deposed that, on the 15th of October, 1748, Captain Dudley, being then on shore at Cape-Coast Castle, sent off his barge to Mr. Couchman, ordering him to send the cutter on shore, with the boatswain of the ship, to see the tents struck on shore, and to bring every thing belonging to the ship on board that night; but Couchman directly ordered the barge to be hoisted in, and the boatswain to turn all the hands to the quarter-deck, where Mr. Couchman, coming from his cabin with a drawn sword, said, “Here I am: G—d d—n me, I will stand by you while I have a drop of blood in my body!” He was accompanied by John Morgan, the lieutenant of marines; Thomas Knight, the carpenter; his mate, John Place (a principal actor); and about 30 seamen with cutlasses.—They then gave three huzzas, and threw their hats overboard; damning old hats, they would soon get new.

Couchman then sent for the boatswain to know if he would stand by him, and go with him; he replied, No; and said, “For God's sake, Sir, be ruled by reason, and consider what you are about.” Couchman then threatened to put him in irons if he did not join with him, but the boatswain told him he never would in such piratical designs; he was then ordered into custody, and two sentinels put over him. Couchman soon after sent for Gilham, the mate of the ship, and made the same speech to him, who desired to know where he was bound, and upon what account? He replied, “To take, burn, and sink, and settle a colony in the East Indies.” There were five or six more put into custody with the boatswain in the same place, and were confined only five or six hours; for, in the middle of the night, after their confinement, Couchman sent for them into the great cabin, and desired them to sit and drink punch, and then dismissed them.

The

The next day the boatswain was invited to dinner by the new commander, who began to rail against Captain Dudley, and asked him and one of the mates what they thought of the affair: the boatswain replied, he thought it rank piracy; on which Couchman said, "What I have done I cannot now go from: I was forced to it by the ship's company." The boatswain then told him "that would be no sanction for his running away with the king's ship." The carpenter and lieutenant then proposed their signing a paper, to which the boatswain replied he never would, and would sooner suffer death: the mate said the same. When the boatswain came out of the great cabin, he went to the gunner's cabin, who was then sick, and unable to come out of it, but was of great use, by his prudent advice and assistance; for, after the boatswain had told him that Couchman's party had taken possession of all the arms, he said that he could furnish him with twenty pistols. By this time Mr. Fraser and Mr. Gilham, mates of the ship, the gunner's mate and yeoman, and the cockswain of the barge, were come to them, when the boatswain communicated his design of recovering the ship that very night. To this they all agreed with the greatest resolution.

It began then to be very dark, being 10 P. M. when the boatswain went to sound the ship's company, and on the forecastle there were about 30 men: he then in a plain but prudent manner disclosed the secret, and soon convinced them both of the facility and necessity of putting his scheme immediately in practice: accordingly, the first step was to get up all the irons or bilboes on the forecastle; he then sent for the 20 pistols, which were all loaded: he next ordered three men upon the grand magazine, and two to that abaft; and the remainder, who had no pistols, to stay by the bilboes, and secure as many prisoners as he should send. This disposition being made, he went directly down on the deck, where he divided his small company into two parties; and, one going down the main, the other the fore hatchway, they soon secured eleven or twelve of the ringleaders, and sent them up to the forecastle without the least noise. The two parties then joined, and went directly to the great cabin,

cabin, where they secured Couchman, and the lieutenant of marines, with the carpenter, whom they immediately confined in different parts on board.

Thus was the ship bravely rescued by the intrepidity and prudence of a few honest men, after she had been about thirty hours in the possession of a poor unhappy man, who appears to have been utterly unfit for so daring an enterprise, and in his unfortunate condition very penitent.

The boatswain (Roger Winket) was afterwards rewarded with three hundred pounds a year, as master-attendant of Woolwich yard.

John Place was charged with being very active in the mutiny. The gunner deposed that the said Place came to him as he lay sick in his cabin, with a drawn cutlass and a cocked pistol, and swore that he would murder him if he did not deliver to him the key of the magazine. He made no defence, but submitted to the mercy of the court.

John Place, after sentence, wrote letters of religious exhortation to his brothers in affliction. His letter to Mr. Couchman upbraids him with having been the murderer of those who were condemned with him, by first seducing them from their duty—exhorts him not to attempt to screen himself by imputing his guilt to others—and concludes, “I freely forgive you, though you are the cause of my death, as you know full well: and I would have you act with a becoming resignation to the will of God; and not, by mean hopes of life, lose an opportunity to secure a blessed eternity.—Despise life (as I do, with God’s assistance), and die like a man.”

ANSWER.

“Mr. PLACE,

“You will die like a villain!—S. COUCHMAN.”

The Court found the following guilty, who were executed in manner hereafter mentioned:—

On the 14th of July, Samuel Couchman, first lieutenant of marines, shot.

July 14, John Morgan, second lieutenant of marines, shot.

July 24, Thomas Knight, carpenter.

John Place, carpenter's mate.

John Meeks, seaman.

William Anderson, seaman.

John Reed, quarter-master.

Thomas Scott, seaman.

} Hanged.

Captain Dudley was tried for "neglect of duty, in keeping a number of his officers on shore, at Cape-Coast Castle, when the ship was seized," and acquitted.

Others of the ship's company, also tried for mutiny, were acquitted.

On the 26th of June, 1749, James Colvin, late boat-swain's mate on board the Richmond man of war, was hanged at Portsmouth, for mutiny.

JOHN MILLS.

(Another of the cruel Gang of Smugglers, lately mentioned,)

EXECUTED ON SLENDON-COMMON, SUSSEX, AUG. 12, 1749, FOR MURDER.

THIS monster was another son of Richard Mills, whose execution has already appeared, and the sequel will show that he was in the habits of cruelty and villany "worthy of his sire."

He was concerned in the murder of the Custom-house officers, but escaped a little longer the slow, but unerring, hand of justice. He was also one of that gang of villains who most daringly broke open the Custom-house at Poole; and yet was he reserved to make atonement for a fresh murder, equal in cruelty to that in which his father and brothers had imbrued their hands.

John Mills and some associates, travelling over Hind-heath, saw the judges on their road to Chichester to try the murderers of Chater and Galley: on which young Mills proposed to rob them; but the other parties refused to have any concern in such an affair.

Soon

Soon after his father, brother, and their accomplices, were hanged, Mills thought of going to Bristol, with a view of embarking for France. Having hinted his intention to some others, they resolved to accompany him; and, stopping at a house on the road, they met with one Richard Hawkins, whom they asked to go with them; but the poor fellow hesitating, they put him on horseback behind Mills, and carried him to the Dog and Partridge on Slendon-common, which was kept by John Reynolds.

They had not been long in the house when complaint was made that two bags of tea had been stolen, and Hawkins was charged with the robbery. He steadily denied any knowledge of the affair: but, this not satisfying the villains, they obliged him to pull off his clothes; and, having likewise stripped themselves, they began to whip him with the most unrelenting barbarity; and Curtis, one of the gang, said he did know of the robbery, and, if he would not confess, he would whip him till he did; for he had whipped many a rogue, and washed his hands in their blood.*

These blood-thirsty villains continued whipping the poor wretch till their breath was almost exhausted; while he begged them to spare his life, on account of his wife and child. Hawkins drawing up his legs, to defend himself in some measure from their blows, they kicked him on the groin in a manner too shocking to be described; continually asking him what was become of the tea. At length the unfortunate man mentioned something of his father and brother; on which Mills and one Curtis said they would go and fetch them; but Hawkins expired soon after they had left the house.

Rowland, one of the accomplices, now locked the

* On the 11th of December, 1750, John Watling, nick-named Peter Jack, a smuggler of Horsey, in Norfolk, was hanged. This villain, among the numerous enormities which he committed at the head of eleven more smugglers, went in the night to the house of Abraham Bailey, who had been a Custom-house watchman, pulled him out of bed, whipped him with their whips until the blood trickled down his body, then hung him by the neck to a tree, but let him down before he was dead. When he recovered his senses they obliged him to answer their questions, and made him swear to his own damnation if he revealed what they had done to him.

door; and, putting the key in his pocket, he and Thomas Winter (who was afterwards admitted evidence) went out to meet Curtis and Mills, whom they saw riding up a lane leading from an adjacent village, having each a man behind him. Winter desiring to speak with his companions, the other men stood at a distance, while he asked Curtis what he meant to do with them, and he said, "To confront them with Hawkins."

Winter now said that Hawkins was dead, and begged that no more mischief might be done; but Curtis replied, "By G— we will go through it now;" but at length they permitted them to go home, saying that when they were wanted they should be sent for.

The murderers now coming back to the public house, Reynolds said, "You have ruined me;" but Curtis replied that he would make him amends. Having consulted how they should dispose of the body, it was proposed to throw it into a well in an adjacent park: but this being objected to, they carried it twelve miles, and having tied stones to it, in order to sink it, they threw it into a pond in Parham-park, belonging to Sir Cecil Bishop; and in this place it lay more than two months before it was discovered.

This horrid and unprovoked murder gave rise to a royal proclamation, in which a pardon was offered to any persons, even outlawed smugglers, except those who had been guilty of murder, or concerned in breaking open the Custom-house at Poole, on the condition of discovering the persons who had murdered Hawkins, particularly Mills, who was charged with having had a concern in this horrid transaction.

Hereupon William Pring, an outlawed smuggler, who had not had any share in either of the crimes excepted in the proclamation, went to the secretary of state, and informed him that he would find Mills, if he could be ascertained of his own pardon; and added, that he believed he was either at Bath or Bristol.

Being assured that he need not doubt of the pardon, he set out for Bristol, where he found Mills, and with him Thomas and Lawrence Kemp, brothers, the former of whom had broken out of Newgate, and the other was
outlawed

outlawed by proclamation. Having consulted on their desperate circumstances, Pring offered them a retreat at his house near Beckenham, in Kent, whence they might make excursions, and commit robberies on the highway.

Pleased with this proposal, they set out with Pring, and arrived in safety at his house, where they had not been long before he pretended that his horse being an indifferent one, and theirs remarkably good, he would go and procure another, and then they would proceed on the intended expeditions.

Thus saying, he set out, and they agreed to wait for his return ; but, instead of going to procure a horse, he went to the house of Mr. Rackster, an officer of the excise at Horsham, who, taking with him seven or eight armed men, went to Beckenham at night, where they found Mills and the two brothers, Kemp, just going to supper on a breast of veal. They immediately secured the brothers by tying their arms ; but Mills, making resistance, was cut with a hanger before he would submit.

The offenders, being taken, were conducted to the county gaol for Sussex, and, being secured till the assizes, were removed to East Grinstead, where the brothers, Kemp, were tried for highway robberies, convicted, sentenced, and executed.

Mills, being tried for the murder of Hawkins, was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death, and to be hung in chains near the place where the murder was committed.

After conviction he mentioned several robberies in which he had been concerned, but refused to tell the names of any of his accomplices ; declaring that he thought he should merit damnation if he made discoveries by means of which any of his companions might be apprehended and convicted.

The country being at that time filled with smugglers, a rescue was feared ; wherefore he was conducted to the place of execution by a guard of soldiers ; and, when there, prayed with a clergyman, confessed that he had led a bad life, acknowledged the murder of Hawkins, desired that all young people would take warning by his

his untimely end, humbly implored the forgiveness of God, and professed to die in charity with all mankind.

After execution he was hung in chains on Slendon-common.*

THOMAS NEALE and WILLIAM BOWEN,

HIGHWAYMEN ;

(The former a most hardened Sinner, who died cursing the Spectators of his Execution, August 12, 1749.)

It must, on the perusal of these volumes, have been observed that the unfortunate subjects of the different cases reported have generally been not only guilty of the crime for which they suffered, but of many others, and often more heinous ones. The reader, too, must have frequently felt indignant at the fool-hardy protestations of innocence, with the rope of death suspended over them, of numbers whose guilt had been most incontestably proved. We shudder at the very idea of a sinner departing this world, and his soul journeying to the next, accompanied by the wicked lie with which the breath fled.

Some malefactors will have been found, affecting to brave the terrors of death merely to gratify the few moments of life left, in exultation of the unnatural reflection of having boldly launched themselves into

* In Suffolk, about this time, was another desperate gang of outlawed smugglers. An officer of excise having received information that two of the most daring (one of the name of Rich, and the other called Cock) were at a certain place in his district, he went, with two more, well armed, in pursuit of, and overtook them, near the Fens, at Mildew-hall: the smugglers immediately fired, without effect. Rich then desperately rode up to the officer, and made a blow at him with a broad axe, but missed; he then, in a scuffle with one of the three pursuers, wrenched his pistol from him, and, firing at the officer, knocked out two of his teeth. Recovering the effects of the ball, he resolutely attacked the smuggler, fired a brace of pistols at him, and beat him over the head with the butt-ends of them, until he fell from his horse. The officer's followers were chiefly engaged with Cock, who, however, effected his escape. Rich died of his wounds next morning; his skull was found fractured, and two balls were extracted from his body.

eternity,

eternity, and that succeeding felons might hereafter say (to use a Newgate phrase) "he died game!"

Of the very worst description of hardened villains was that whose crimes we are about to bring to view—a wretch callous to hope and fear, and who died mocking his God, and cursing his fellow-creatures!

The proclamation of peace occasioning the discharge of many seamen, Neale was paid off, and, bringing his wages to London, he soon wasted his money in the most dissipated manner, and in the worst of company; and then had recourse to the dangerous practices of a footpad robber.

On a particular occasion he stole a tankard from an inn in Hertfordshire, for which he was apprehended, and lodged in the county gaol, and, being tried at the next assizes, was capitally convicted; but obtained a pardon, on the condition of transporting himself for seven years, through the interest of the late duke of Cumberland.

Having given bail thus to transport himself, he entertained no thought of fulfilling the contract; but, immediately associating with Bowen and other villains, they committed a variety of robberies in the vicinity of London.

William Bowen was a native of Londonderry, in Ireland. His parents, who kept an inn, and lived respectably, proposed that he should succeed them in their business; but an attachment to bad company led him astray from the paths of duty.

His father dying just before he came of age, left him the inn, on the condition of his supporting his mother, a brother, and two young sisters: but the young man, deaf to every prudent consideration, associated with people whose circumstances were much superior to his own, to the neglect of that business which would have supported the family.

Aware of the decay of his trade, and the consequent ruin that stared him in the face, he came over to London with all the cash he could secure, and fell in company with people who assisted him to spend his money; and, when that was gone, he entered on board a ship as a common sailor.

The seamen having received their wages, Bowen got
into

into company with his old associates and some women of ill fame, with whom he spent his last shilling, and then had recourse for support to the perpetration of robberies in the neighbourhood of London, particularly near Stepney and Mile-End.

One of Bowen's companions being apprehended for picking pockets, he and others joined to rescue him, as the peace-officers were conveying him to Newgate in a coach.

The public being alarmed by this daring rescue, Bowen did not think it safe to stay in London; and having heard that his brother, then a seaman, was at Liverpool, he went thither in search of him: but, on his arrival, he learnt that, having received a large sum as prize-money, he had sailed to see his friends in Ireland.

Bowen immediately wrote to Londonderry; but, not having a letter in return, he came to the metropolis in the most distressed circumstances; when, going to a house where he had formerly lodged, he was informed that Neale had been to inquire for him; and on the following day Neale came to see him, in company with a man named Vincent.

After drinking together, Neale said to Bowen, "Come and take a ride with me." Bowen said he had no money; but the other told him that would soon be procured. On this Neale went out to borrow him a pair of boots; while Bowen went with Vincent to his lodgings, where the latter gave him a hanger and a pair of pistols, which Bowen concealed under a great coat; and then all the parties met at an alehouse in Southwark, whence they went to an inn, and hired horses, on the pretence of going to Gravesend; instead of which they went towards Kingston, where Vincent had a relation who belonged to the Oxford Blues.

In their way they purchased a whip for Bowen, and loaded their pistols. On their arrival at Kingston they went to a public-house, and, sending for Vincent's kinsman, they all dined together, and drank themselves into a state of perfect intoxication.

Having paid their reckoning, they mounted their horses, determined on the commission of robbery; and, meeting

meeting a gentleman named Ryley, Bowen pulled him from his horse, and in the same instant quitted his own. Mr. Ryley ran off; but Bowen following him, threw him down, and, kneeling on his breast, the other entreated that he would not hurt him. Bowen threatened his instant destruction if he did not quietly submit; and, having robbed him of his watch and money, bade him run after his horse, which had quitted the place on Neale's whipping him; and, in the interim, Vincent watched, lest any person should come up to interrupt him.

The highwaymen now rode towards London, and when they came near Wandsworth determined to go to Fulham, and thence to town by the way of Hyde-park Corner. Having divided the booty (except a thirty-six shilling piece, which Bowen secreted) at the Greyhound inn, near Piccadilly, they supped and slept at that house.

In the morning they told the landlord that they wanted to go towards Highgate, but were not well acquainted with the road. As they had been good customers, the landlord begged to treat them with half a pint of rum, and then went a little way with them to show them the nearest road.

Having arrived at Highgate, they drank at that place, and then determined to proceed to Barnet, at which place they put up their horses, and called for rum and water, of which they swallowed such quantities that Vincent and Bowen fell fast asleep.

In the mean time Neale endeavoured to secrete a silver pint mug; but, being detected in the attempt, he was taken before a magistrate, and loaded pistols being found on him, orders were given that his companions should likewise be taken into custody, and all of them were lodged in the county gaol.

At the next assizes an order was made for their discharge (as nothing appeared against them), on their giving security for their good behaviour. For this purpose they wrote to London to procure bail; but Mr. Ryley, hearing that three men of doubtful character were in the gaol of Hertford, went thither, and immediately knew that they were the parties by whom he had been robbed.

Hereupon a detainer was lodged against them, and they were removed for trial at the Surrey assizes, previous to the holding of which Vincent was admitted an evidence for the crown. His testimony corroborating that of Mr. Ryley, Neale and Bowen were found guilty, and sentenced to die.

Being lodged in the New Gaol, Southwark, Bowen was taken ill, and continued so till the time of his execution. He behaved with some degree of resignation to his fate; but was violent in his exclamations against Vincent, on account of his turning evidence.

Neale evinced no concern on account of his unhappy situation; but behaved in a manner more hardened than language can express. At the place of execution he paid no regard to the devotions, but laughed at the populace while he played with the rope which was to put a period to his life. After the cap was drawn over his face, he put it up again, and addressed the people in the following shocking terms:—"I shall very soon see my Lord Balmerino. He was a very good friend of mine; so that is what I had to say, and d—n you all together." He then drew the cap over his eyes, and was launched into eternity.

"Henceforth let honour's path be trod,
Nor villains seek in vain
To mock the sacred laws of God,
And give their neighbours pain."

BENJAMIN NEALE,

EXECUTED IN SURREY, AUGUST 12, 1749, FOR BURGLARY.

HOUSE-BREAKING is a desperate species of robbery. Those who engage in it may be fitly compared to Satan, who, in an inauspicious hour, broke into the garden of Eden, stripped our first parents of their innocence, and filled the world with violence and rapine. Thieves and robbers are of their father the devil, and the work of their father they will do; but all such enjoy short and unsatisfying pleasure, to which long woe frequently succeeds: and, in the mean time, while such persons are carrying

on

on their depredations on the public, they cannot but at times, unless entirely hardened, be subject to the stings of an accusing conscience, which severely condemns the guilty. The terrors of an agonizing conscience have, in many instances, been so intolerable, that the atrocious offender, unable to support the violence of divine wrath, has often laid violent hands on himself; but this desperate expedient will prove at length, to all such, only the beginning of sorrows in the world to come.

Benjamin Neale was a hardened sinner, whose fate exhibits a melancholy instance of the danger of mixing in dissolute company. He was the son of an apothecary and surgeon at Extel, in Warwickshire, who, having many children to provide for, apprenticed Benjamin to a baker in a large business, at Coventry.

During his apprenticeship his conduct was very reprehensible, for he would frequently stay out whole nights, and return to his master's house in the morning in a state of intoxication.

With some difficulty he served to the end of his time, when several of the inhabitants of Coventry recommended it to his father to put him into business, and promised to deal with him; and the father enabled him to begin the world in a creditable manner. For a considerable time he had such success in business, that he became the principal baker in the place; and he married the daughter of one of the aldermen, with whom he received a good fortune, and would soon have been a rich man if he had paid a proper attention to his business: however, it was not long after he received his wife's fortune before he began to give himself such airs of consequence as rendered him disagreeable to his wife, and made the servants look on him as a perfect tyrant.

To this behaviour succeeded a neglect of his business, which visibly declined, while he frequented cock-pits and horse-races. It was in vain that his father and his wife remonstrated on the impropriety of this conduct, and represented its inconsistency with the life of a tradesman: he continued his courses till his character was lost, and he was reduced to labour as a journeyman baker.

Unable to submit with decency to a fate which he

had brought on himself, he wandered about the country, picking up a casual and doubtful subsistence. Returning one night to Coventry, he found his mother, his wife, and child, in company. He demanded money, but they refusing to supply him, he threatened to murder them, and was proceeding to put his threats into execution, when their cries alarmed the neighbours, and prevented the perpetration of the deed ; but this affair had such an effect on his wife that she was seized with a fever, which soon put a period to her life.

This disaster did not seem to make any impression on his mind, for, travelling soon after into Staffordshire, he married a second wife ; but, returning to Coventry, he privately sold off his effects, and left the poor woman in circumstances of great distress.

It was not long after this before he commenced highwayman, and committed a variety of robberies on different roads, and at length became a house-breaker, which brought him to a fatal end.

At Farnham, in Surrey, lived a gentleman of fortune, named Newton, at whose house Neale thought he might acquire a considerable booty, and, in pursuance of this plan, he broke into the house at four o'clock in the morning, and, forcing open a bureau, he stole several bank-notes, an East-India bond, between fifty and sixty pounds in money, some medals of gold, and several valuable articles.

Mr. Newton no sooner discovered the robbery than he sent off a messenger, with a letter to his brother in London, requesting that he would advertise the loss, and stop payment of the notes. When Neale had committed the robbery, he likewise proceeded towards London, and, when he came to Brentford, offered some watermen three shillings and sixpence to row him to town ; but this they refused, and Neale had no sooner got into another boat which was putting from the shore, than the messenger arrived at Brentford ; and the watermen, having entertained a suspicion of Neale, asked the man if he was in pursuit of a thief, and, he replying in the affirmative, they pointed to the boat in which Neale was sitting.

On this the messenger hired another boat, and, having overtaken

overtaken him, found him wrapped up in a waterman's coat. The criminal being conducted before a magistrate, the stolen effects were found in his possession: on which he was ordered for commitment, and conveyed to Newgate the same day.

When the assizes for Surrey began, he was sent to Guildford, where he was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die. After conviction his behaviour was such as might have been expected from one who was too hardened to repent of crimes which he could not hesitate to commit. His conduct was so totally improper for his situation, that even the keepers of the gaol seemed to be shocked at his want of feeling, and advised him to amend his manners: but their advice was lost on one of the most abandoned of the human race.*

HUGH DAWSON and JOHN GAMMELL,

EXECUTED ON KENNINGTON-COMMON, AUGUST 22, 1749.

THE repeated comments we have made on the effects of idleness, extravagance, and drunkenness, in bringing such numbers to the gallows, would render repetition tedious and unnecessary. For this reason we pass over many cases without observation; but there are crimes resulting from some of those vices, without any particular circum-

* We could wish to caution housekeepers to look every evening about their houses, and particularly in their bed-chambers, for lurking thieves, who often steal in unobserved about twilight, and lie concealed until they find an opportunity of plundering, and perhaps murdering, the family in their sleep. The following anecdote, among many similar circumstances which we have met with, may serve to strengthen our admonition:—

Mrs. Lewis, who kept a public-house at Hilsea, near Portsmouth, was alarmed, on going to bed, by observing the feet of a man below the window-curtain; at the same moment her young child, who slept with her, cried for beer, and, with a happy presence of mind, she answered, that she would go down stairs, and bring it drink. This fortunate pretence afforded her an opportunity of alarming her neighbours, who entered the house, and seized the villain, with a razor in his hand, with which he most likely meant to have cut her throat. It is remarkable that this woman's husband was, a few years before, shot by a robber of the name of Williams, who was executed for the murder, and his body at the time hanging in chains on South-sea common, adjoining Portsmouth.

stances

stances arising in the short career of villany to an untimely fate.

Of this description of criminals are those we are now about to bring forward ; yet in the character of Dawson there is a wicked attempt to brave his fall, but which the more immediate approach of death happily turned to the fear of God.

Dawson was an Irishman, and born of respectable parents, his father having been a bookseller in Londonderry. Gammell was a Scotchman, of Greenock, and both were lazy worthless fellows.

The father of Dawson, finding his son would settle to no business in his own country, sent him to sea. After the first voyage he remained some time at home, and did not seem to entertain any further thoughts of going to sea ; but, falling in love with a young woman in the neighbourhood, she promised him marriage, but advised him to follow his former occupation some time longer.

In consequence of this advice he went again to sea, and on his return from each voyage visited his favourite girl ; but at length it was discovered by her parents that she was pregnant by her lover. Alarmed by this circumstance, they proposed to Dawson's father to give him a fortune proportioned to what they would bestow on their girl ; but this the old man obstinately refused, though the son earnestly entreated him to accede to the proposal.

Hereupon young Dawson left his parents, swore he would never again return home, and went once more to sea. Having made some voyages, the vessel in which he sailed put into the harbour of Sandwich ; on which Dawson quitted a sea-faring life, and married a girl of fortune, who bore him two children, which were left to the care of her relations at her death, which happened six years after the marriage.

On this event Dawson went again to sea, and was in several naval engagements. When his ship was paid off he went to Bristol, where he was arrested for a debt he had contracted. At this period he heard of the death of his father, and that his mother's affection for him was in no degree diminished ; on which he wrote her an account of
of

of his situation ; and she sent him fifty pounds, which relieved him from his embarrassments.

Having procured his liberty, he went to London, and marrying the widow of a seaman, who possessed some money, they lived in harmony a considerable time, till, making a connexion with dissolute companions, he commenced the practices which led to his ruin.

Gammell, who had been a ship-mate with Dawson, was one of these companions, and, being now out of employment, advised him to go on the highway. He hesitated for some time ; but, having drank freely, his resolution failed him, and he agreed to the fatal proposal.

These accomplices dressed themselves as sailors, and, concealing bludgeons under their jackets, knocked down the persons they intended to rob, and stripped them of their effects.

The robbery which cost them their lives was committed near New-cross turnpike, on a gentleman named Outridge, from whom they took his money and watch, and treated him with great barbarity. Being pursued by some people whom Mr. Outridge informed of the robbery, Dawson was overtaken and confined ; and, having given information where Gammell lodged, he likewise was apprehended ; and both of them being conveyed to the New Gaol, Southwark, they mutually recriminated on each other.

On the approach of the assizes for Surrey, the prisoners were carried to Croydon, where they were both tried, and capitally convicted. After passing sentence, Dawson was visited by a Roman Catholic priest, who intimated that he had heard he was of the Romish religion ; but the other said he would die in the Protestant faith, in which he had been educated : but notwithstanding this declaration, and his regular attendance on the forms of the Protestant mode, there was reason to conclude that he was a Catholic, from a paper that was found in his cell after his death.

On the night preceding the execution the behaviour of Dawson evinced the distraction of his mind. He was visited by his wife, who had been sitting some time with him, when the turnkey came, and intimated that he must retire ;

retire; on which he refused to go, and knocked the fellow down; but, others of the keepers coming, he was secured. His wife would now have taken a final leave of him; and he said if she did not depart he would murder her.

As the keepers were conducting him through the courtyard to his cell, he called to the other prisoners, saying, "Holla! my boys! Dawson is to be hanged to-morrow."

The prisoners were conveyed to the place of execution in the same cart; and, when there, Dawson expressed his hope of salvation through the merits of Jesus Christ, and declared he died in charity with all men. Gammell addressed the surrounding multitude, particularly hoping that his brother seamen would avoid the commission of such crimes as led to his deplorable end. He hoped forgiveness from all whom he had injured, and acknowledged that he fell a victim to the equity of the laws.

ROBERT COX,

(Late Captain's Clerk of the Royal George Man of War,)

EXECUTED AT WINCHESTER, SEPT. 1, 1749, FOR FORGING SEAMEN'S TICKETS.

THIS man was tried on several indictments: the first for stealing a certain obligation, called "a seaman's ticket," the property of Benjamin Berry; the others for forgery, in indorsing the same.

When ships of war return from a long foreign station, the crews are generally turned over to others, fit for service; and, upon these occasions, each man is delivered a warrant, signed by the principal officers under whom he served, and which is called a seaman's ticket: in fact, it is a negotiable property, when indorsed, like a note of hand or bill of exchange; but, because the men should not be tempted to sell their tickets under price, instead of being put into their possession, they are sent with them to the captain of the ship to which they are turned over, and lodged in his hands till they are ordered to some other ship, and then these tickets are still sent with them.

In

In this manner, the Glasgow man-of-war being laid up, part of her crew were turned over to the several ships successively, and at length, to the Royal George.

Soon after the peace was agreed upon, these men were of course discharged, and the tickets put into the hands of their proper owners; but those of Mr. Berry and twelve seamen more were missing, and no account could be given of them. They immediately laid the fact before the Lords of the Admiralty, by way of petition, who wrote to Captain Harrison, to know the reason why the petitioners were refused their tickets. The captain answered the letter, but was unable to give any reason, or to say more than that they could not be found. Upon which the Lords of the Admiralty thought fit to mulct the wages due to the men out of Captain Harrison's pay, who now feeling, most sensibly, the case of the poor sailors, made more immediate inquiry after the lost tickets, and accordingly advertised them, with a reward to any person who should make a discovery.

Mr. Cullen, who formerly kept the inn called the India-Arms, at Gosport, deposed, that the identical tickets, so advertised, were deposited with him by the prisoner, Robert Cox, as security for twenty guineas, which he had lent him: and that, on the appearance of the advertisement, Cox came to him to beg he would take his bond for the twenty guineas, and give him up the tickets; but the witness refused so to do; telling him, if he came honestly by them, he might immediately sell them, and, out of what they brought, pay him the sum lent: but that if he had not come honestly by them, it was fit the truth should be known. Upon this, the witness continued, Cox went his way, and the witness hastened to give information to Captain Harrison.

Upon the trial of the first indictment, no proof could be adduced that the prisoner stole the tickets, he was accordingly acquitted—but the second was fatal to him; for it was fully proved, that he forged the name of Berry to the tickets, was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

He suffered at Winchester, in September, 1749.

BONSAVERN PENLEZ,

EXECUTED FOR BEING CONCERNED IN A RIOT, OCTOBER 18, 1749.

Our indignance of the dying conduct of Neale is changed "to gentle drops of pity" for the untimely fate of this young man. His conviction was, doubtless warranted by proof: but surely he was a fit object for royal clemency.

This unhappy youth (for he can hardly be deemed a malefactor) was the son of a native of the Island of Jersey, who, having been educated at Oxford, entered into orders, and having obtained a small church-preferment, settled near Exeter, where his unfortunate son was born.

His father, dying while he was young, he was placed as an apprentice to a barber and peruke-maker at Exeter, by the stewards of the sons of the clergy. Having served his apprenticeship with the highest reputation for good character and sobriety, he came to London, and lived in several places with the utmost credit, till a circumstance equally unpremeditated and unforeseen occasioned his destruction.

On Saturday, the first of July, 1749, three seamen belonging to the Grafton man-of-war, having called at a house of ill-fame in the Strand, were there robbed of their watches, a bank-note value 20*l.* four moidores, and thirty guineas.

The seamen demanded a reparation of their loss; instead of which some bullies belonging to the house pushed them from the door, whereupon they went away, denouncing vengeance: and, having collected a number of their companions in the neighbourhood of Wapping, they returned at night, broke open the house, turned the woman almost naked into the streets, ripped up the beds, threw the feathers out of the window, broke the furniture in pieces, and made a bonfire of it.

Having proceeded to behave in a similar manner at another house of ill-fame, a party of the guards was sent for, and the mob for the present dispersed.

On

On the following day, being Sunday, immense numbers of people crowded to see the ruins of the infamous houses; and on this day Bonsavern Penlez went to the house of Mr. Pearce in Wych-street, where he had left some clothes; and, when he had cleaned himself, he visited an acquaintance named Taylor, with whom he drank at a public-house, dined, and spent the afternoon with him.

In the evening, Penlez walked in Somerset-gardens, and at eight o'clock went back to his friend Taylor, who being engaged with company, Penlez declined staying, and proceeded to meet an acquaintance at the Horseshoe, near Temple-bar. Having drank some beer with him, he was returning to his lodgings, when he unfortunately met with another acquaintance, who told him it was his birth-day, and begged he would drink some punch with him.

This request being complied with, Penlez became quite intoxicated; and, in his way home, found a mob at the door of the Star Tavern, near Temple-bar, endeavouring to destroy what the seamen had left undemolished. Many of the people got into the house, and did great damage; and Penlez, with John Wilson, and Benjamin Launder, were taken into custody.

Being brought to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, the evidences were Peter Wood (the landlord) his wife, and one Reeves, their servant, who positively swore to the commission of the facts alleged in the indictment.

To discredit their testimony, Mr. John Mixon, the collector of the scavenger's rate, deposed, that he did not think the oath of Mr. or Mrs. Wood was to be taken; and that he would not hang a cat or a dog, on their evidence. He added, that the house they kept was of the most notorious ill-fame; that the rates were paid in the name of Thompson; that Wood and his wife had been often prosecuted for keeping a disorderly house, and that the neighbours were afraid to appear against them.

In the course of the trial, Wood swore, "that the mob amounted to about seven hundred people, that eight or ten of them came into his parlour, among whom were Wil-

son and Penlez; that they broke the partition with their sticks, pulled out the pieces with their hands, destroyed all the furniture in the parlour, and threw it into the street, broke down his bar, and knocked him down on the stairs;" with many other circumstances, tending to prove the riot, and that the prisoners were concerned in it.

Several persons of reputation appeared to the character of the prisoners: but the positive evidence against them induced the jury to convict Penlez and Wilson: but Launder was acquitted.

The inhabitants of the parish of St. Clement's Dane, and many individuals, made great interest to save these unfortunate youths, in consequence of which Wilson was reprieved; but Penlez was ordered for execution.

It is said that the king was disposed to have pardoned them both: but that Lord Chief Justice Willies, before whom they were tried, declared in council that no regard would be paid to the laws, except one of them was made an example of. Our account informs us, that the king still inclined to pardon them both, and that the chief justice was three times sent for, and consulted on this occasion: but that he still persisted in his former opinion.*

After conviction, Penlez behaved in such a manner as evidently testified the goodness of his disposition, and the little probability there was of such a man committing a wilful premeditated crime. It is not in language to describe how much he was pitied by the public. Every one wished his pardon, and wondered, without considering the necessity that there was for an example, that he was not spared.

When the day of execution arrived, he prepared to meet his fate with the consciousness of an innocent man, and the courage of a Christian. The late Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, Chamberlain of London, was at that time sheriff; and a number of soldiers were placed at Holborn-bars, to conduct Penlez to Tyburn (as a rescue was apprehended), the sheriff politely dismissed them, assert-

* It is a well-known fact, that Lord Chief Justice Willies was a steady assertor of the dignity of the law: therefore, it could not be supposed that he could have any prejudice against the convict.

ing that the civil power was sufficient to carry the edicts of the law into effectual execution.

The worthy inhabitants of St. Clement's Dane, who had been among the foremost in soliciting a pardon for Penlez, finding all their efforts ineffectual, did all possible honour to his memory, by burying him in a distinguished manner, in a church-yard of their parish, on the evening after his unfortunate exit, which happened in the 23d year of his age.*

✂ CAPTAIN CLARKE,

(Of the Royal Navy,)

CONVICTED AND CONDEMNED TO BE HANGED FOR THE MURDER OF CAPTAIN INNIS, IN A DUEL, AND PARDONED, JUNE 12, 1750.

OF the destructive and wicked practice of seeking revenge, or rather satisfaction, in the blood of a fellow-creature, by a mode of murder, called duelling, we have, in the case of Mr. Thornhill, (Vol. I. p. 85) given our opinion.

In order to prevent officers in the army and navy putting each other to death, the articles of war impose heavy penalties upon an officer giving or receiving a challenge; and yet, he who refuses to receive one, or being what is termed insulted, and not challenging the aggressor, is deemed a coward, and "sent to Coventry."†

Such

* When the celebrated William Penn, the Quaker, and another, were tried for a riot, in Gracechurch-street, London, the fact of their preaching was proved, but of disturbance or riot the jury had no proof, and therefore returned a verdict of "Guilty of preaching in Gracechurch-street."

† This punishment, among officers, is most humiliating; and cannot be taken cognizance of by any military law. It consists simply of an unanimous determination of the whole, not to associate with him, under disgrace. Thus must the man, who, in this instance, strictly adheres to the laws by which he holds his commission, become, as it were, the finger-post of scorn—an outcast of society. It may be inquired, "Why
send

Such appears the case of this officer whose misfortune we are about to relate.

The Captains Innis and Clarke were commanders under Admiral Knowles, the first of the Warwick, and the latter of the Canterbury, line-of-battle ships, sixty-four guns each, when he obtained a victory over a Spanish fleet of equal force, and took from them the Conquestadore, run their Vice-admiral on shore, where she blew up: the rest escaping under favour of the night. It was the opinion, that had the admiral availed himself of an opportunity which at one time presented, of bringing up his fleet to bear at once upon the enemy, the whole might have been taken.

The issue of this battle was, therefore, unsatisfactory to the nation; the admiral was called to account for his conduct, before a court-martial, held on board the royal yatch the Charlotte, at Deptford, which sat during nine days.

The opinion of the court being unfavourable to the admiral, caused a divided opinion among the officers. It did not, however, affect the personal bravery of that commander, on the contrary, it appeared in evidence, that he displayed the greatest intrepidity, exposing his person to imminent danger, after his ship was disabled; but it also appeared that in manœuvring, previous to the engagement, he had not availed himself of an advantage, by which neglect it was begun by four of his vessels when six might have been brought up. The court therefore determined, that he fell under the 14th and 23d articles of

send them to Coventry? and why not, since they are said to be sent somewhere, order them to John-o-Groat's house, at the extremity of Scotland?" The origin of this expression is said to be this: The inhabitants of this inland city were formerly most decidedly averse from any correspondence with the military quartered within their limits. A female known to speak to a man in a scarlet coat became directly the object of town scandal. So rigidly, indeed, did the natives abstain from communication with all who bore his majesty's military commission, that officers were here confined to the interchanges of the mess-room; and in the mess-room, the term of "sending a man to Coventry," if you wish to shut him from society, probably originated. If so, the notion has no longer truth for its basis; the military now meet in that city with every polite attention, that may be expected to spring from an improved liberality of manner.

war

war, namely, the word "Negligence;" for which they sentenced him to be reprimanded.

This sentence caused much ill blood among the officers. The admiral had already been called out twice in duels with his captains, and had received more challenges of the same kind; but government being apprised of the outrages, put a stop to them, by taking the challengers into custody.

Captain Clarke, it appears, had given evidence on the trial of the admiral, which displeased Captain Innis, to so great a degree, that he called him "a perjured rascal;" and charging him with giving false evidence. This was certainly language, worse to be borne by an officer, than rankling wounds, or even death. Captain Clarke being apprised, that Innis, in this way, traduced and vilified him in all companies, gave him a verbal challenge, which the other accepted.

On the 12th of August, 1749, early in the morning, these gentlemen, attended by their seconds, met in Hyde-park. The pistols of Captain Clarke were screw-barrelled, and about seven inches long; those of Captain Innis were common pocket pistols, three inches and a half in the barrel. They were not more than five yards distant from each other, when they turned about, and Captain Clarke fired, before Captain Innis had levelled his pistol. The ball took effect in the breast, of which wound Captain Innis expired at twelve o'clock the same night.

The coroner's jury found a verdict of wilful murder, against Captain Clarke, on which he was apprehended, brought to trial at the Old Bailey, found guilty, and sentenced to death. The king, in consideration of his services, and the bravery he displayed in fighting his ship under Admiral Knowles, was pleased to grant him a free pardon.

There were other circumstances in this unfortunate rencontre, which were favourable to Captain Clarke; for his firing on turning round; and his pistol being larger than that of Captain Innis, was not deemed unfair, by the sanguinary rules of duelling; for Captain Innis might have provided himself with a large pair had he pleased. But what pleaded powerfully in his behalf, was the expressions

pressions of the dying man, who acquitted and forgave him. When a soldier seized Captain Clarke, the former asked the wounded man, what he should do with him, to which he faintly answered, "Set him at liberty, for what he has done was my own seeking."

On the 1st of June, 1750, being the last day of the sessions of the Old Bailey, Captain Clarke, among the other convicts was brought up to receive sentence of death, when he pleaded His Majesty's pardon, which had been then lately sent him, and which being recorded, he was discharged.

From the necessity of the esteem of others have arisen single combats, and they have been established by the anarchy of the laws. They are thought to have been unknown to the ancients, perhaps because they did not assemble in their temples, in their theatres, or with their friends, suspiciously armed with swords; and, perhaps, because single combats were a common spectacle, exhibited to the people by gladiators, who were slaves, and whom freemen disdained to imitate.

In vain have the laws endeavoured to abolish this custom by punishing the offenders with death. A man of honour, deprived of the esteem of others, foresees that he must be reduced either to a solitary existence, insupportable to a social creature, or become the object of perpetual insult; considerations sufficient to overcome the fear of death.

It may not be without its use to repeat here what has been mentioned by other writers; viz. that the best method of preventing this crime, is to punish the aggressor, that is, the person who gave occasion to the duel; and to acquit him, who, without any fault on his side, is obliged to defend that which is not sufficiently secured to him by the laws.

MARGARET

MARGARET HARVEY,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JULY 6, 1750, FOR PRIVATELY STEALING.

THE fate of this woman is among those which call for commiseration, what can a weak female do, when treated with unmerited severity by an unfeeling husband ! The unfortunate Margaret Harvey appears to have had no alternative between flight, or longer staying with the man she still loved, and remaining in fear of her life. A woman once abandoned by him, whom duty called upon to be her protector, stoops to a course, in order to support life, at which her nature revolts.

Mrs. Harvey was a native of the city of Dublin, descended from parents of reputation, by whom she was educated in a very decent manner ; she married the valet of a nobleman when she was only sixteen years of age ; and her husband soon afterwards procuring a lieutenant's commission on board a man of war, sailed in the service of his country.

Returning after an absence of six months, he became extremely jealous of his wife ; but we have no account that he had then any cause for such jealousy. Be this as it may, he treated her with such severity that she left him, in apprehension that her life was in danger.

Some of her relations afforded her present support ; but when they began to think her troublesome, she went to her parents, who received her with the utmost affection : but her husband had art enough to persuade her father that she had no good cause to have left him ; on which the old man insisted on her returning to her duty as a wife.

When she was again at home with him, he treated her no less cruelly than heretofore ; and on a particular occasion, without any previous quarrel, he cut her on the arms and head with a hanger, so that she carried the marks to the grave ; yet still she continued to love him with unabating affection.

At length when she was on a visit, in company with several other women, and complaining of the cruelty of
VOL. II.—NO. 32. 2 R her

her husband, they recommended her to avenge herself by quitting him, and putting herself under the protection of a gentleman, who knew her situation, pitied her case, and would be proud to become her benefactor.

Fatally for her repose, she listened to this advice, and went to live with the stranger: on which her husband left Dublin, and set out for London.

The man who had thus been the indirect means of seducing her from her duty, soon grew tired of her company, and quitted her, leaving her in circumstances of utter distress.

In this dilemma, she determined to go in search of her husband, and solicit his forgiveness; and with this view sailed for England, and travelled to London; but her inquiries after him proving fruitless, she went into service in Mary-le-bone-street, and remained about four months in that station.

When the fireworks were exhibited in St. James's park, on occasion of the peace with France, she was permitted to go and see the extraordinary sight; and while she was a spectator of that magnificent shew, some women and seamen entered into conversation with her: and going to a public-house, they spent the night and following day in intemperance.

Ashamed now to return to her service, she took a lodging in St. Giles's, and becoming acquainted with some women of ill fame, who were supported by sailors who visited them, she soon became as abandoned in manners as her associates.

Some Irish seamen being acquainted with her, she went with them to Wapping, and having drunk very freely, she was met on her return home by a gentleman, who took her to a tavern, where she found means to rob him of his gold watch: but being taken into custody that night, she was lodged in the Round-house, and committed to Newgate the following day.

Being brought to trial at the Old Bailey sessions, she was capitally convicted: but pleading that she was with child, she was respited till the year 1750, when sentence of death was passed on her.

While in this distressed situation, she acknowledged that

that she should not have pleaded being with child, but that she had hopes of obtaining a pardon on condition of transportation; and on the arrival of the warrant for her execution, she wrung her hands, cried exceedingly, and lamented the misfortunes which first induced her to come to London.

On the morning of her execution she was visited by some of her country-women, who having privately brought in some brandy, induced her to drink such a quantity of it, that she died in an absolute state of intoxication: though before this circumstance she had exhibited every sign of real penitence and contrition.

A month before this shocking exposure, three women, viz. Elizabeth Banks, for stripping a child, and stealing its clothes; Catherine Conway, for forging a seaman's ticket; and Margaret Harvey, for robbing her master, on the 6th of June, 1750, were brought out of Newgate, for execution, in a state of actual drunkenness. The account before us, of this shameful practice, reprobates the conduct of the gaoler, in suffering strong liquors to be brought to prisoners, and observes, that it is contrary to the express orders of the Court of Aldermen.

ANN FLYNN,

CONVICTED AT THE OLD BAILEY OF A PETTY THEFT.

(A melancholy Case, arising from real Distress.)

ALREADY have we so often found cases of crimes, committed through the impulse of impending want; that the unequal distribution of property often causes the most melancholy reflections.

A desire of introducing the result of a dreary evening's lucubration, in the critical year one thousand eight hundred and ten, on this distressing subject, impels us, for a very few pages, to intrude upon our chronological order, by introducing a modern trial, with our comments there-

on, which strongly pictures the uncommon distress of the times.

Thus circumstanced, as authors introduce their episodes, must we here introduce the case of a poor famished female.

Ann Flynn was indicted at the Old Bailey, for stealing from a butcher in Whitechapel, a shoulder of mutton. It appeared in evidence, that the prosecutor being busy with his customers, on a Saturday night, the prisoner availed herself of that opportunity, and carried away the shoulder of mutton. She was, however, soon seized and brought back ; and an officer being sent for, she was carried before a magistrate, and committed for trial. These facts being proved, the prisoner was called upon for her defence, and she told a tale of woe, that penetrated every heart ; she acknowledged the robbery, but solemnly declared, she was urged to it by the most afflicting distress. Her husband had been ill, and unable to earn a shilling for twelve weeks, and she was driven to the last extremity, with two infant children. In that deplorable situation, continued the unfortunate woman, while the tears ran down her wan cheeks, she desperately snatched the shoulder of mutton, and for which she had already been confined five weeks.

The jury found her guilty, with a faltering accent : and the recorder immediately replied, " Gentlemen, I understand you," and he sentenced her to be fined only one shilling and discharged, which the jury themselves paid, but the officer of the prison gave it to her.

This case, if the extremity of the law had been resorted to, was felony.

As soon as she was taken away, the prosecutor addressed the court, and said, that the constable had done him more injury than the thief ! for though Sir William Parsons, the magistrate that committed her, had ordered him to take care of the shoulder of mutton, *he thought fit to cook it for his own dinner, and to sit down and eat it.*

[This new complaint, as might naturally be supposed, excited not a little, the risible muscles of the court.]

The constable was immediately called upon to account for his conduct, who said, " My Lord, I did take care of it,

it, as ordered ; I kept it while it was worth keeping, and if my wife and I had not eat it, the dogs must have dined on it."

The reverse of this picture of human misery, we shall give from an impression of the speech of Mr. Alley, counsel on the part of the king, on the trial of an indictment against Mary Anne Clarke, for a conspiracy against Col. Wardle in the Court of King's Bench, but a few weeks previous to that against Ann Flynn.

Speaking of a fact to be proved by Major Dodd, (the Secretary to the Duke of York) Mr. Alley said, " That he (the major) had received a hint, that if he gave evidence in this cause, the indictment against the cast-off mistress of the Duke of York, he should lose his office under government, worth about three thousand pounds a year. Notwithstanding that pregnant hint, *he did go* before the grand jury, to give his evidence, and *he lost* his place immediately.

" O Shame, where is thy blush !"

An Englishman deprived of his affluence and comfort, because he has the honesty of going before the grand jury of his countrymen, to tell the truth, as he owes it to his God and the country, in the cause of justice ! But he had his reward in a quiet conscience, and like another Cincinnatus, would be content with honest obscurity, in preference to affluence and guilt. Major Glenney pursued the same course, and he lost an employment that was worth seventeen shillings a day. These things spoke for themselves. Another most glaring thing was, that which would appear in the evidence of Sir Richard Phillips, with whom Mrs. Clarke had negociated about her book, for which he agreed to give her 5000*l.* ; but she said she wanted 2000*l.* more, to pay Wright, her upholsterer ; upon which Sir Richard Phillips said, he would have nothing to do with her ; and after that, Lord Chichester is believed to have given her 10,000*l.* for her infamous book, which was only a proof of her ingratitude to that illustrious prince, (the Duke of York) under whose protection she had been fostered and cherished. She was like the viper that stung the hand which saved her from perishing

perishing in the snow. Ten thousand pounds for the despicable trash of a strumpet, and fifteen guineas for Milton's Paradise Lost! Thus, scandalous abuse, scurrility, and contemptible nonsense, were repaid, while the works of the brightest genius were neglected. What was to be expected from a nation in which such scenes were exhibited? Vice and folly living in splendour.—Virtue and Genius starving in the streets. This actually surpassed the ideas of our immortal Shakspeare, who supposed that when one man stole away the name of another, it did not enrich the purloiner; for he said,

“ Who steals my purse, steals trash.
 “ ’Twas mine, ’tis his,
 “ And has been slave to thousands;
 “ But he that filches from me my good name,
 “ Robs me of that which not enriches him,
 “ And makes me poor indeed.”

Thus it appears, that even Shakspeare himself, with his inventive genius, could not foresee that one person could not get rich by filching from another his good name, for it appeared that Mrs. Clarke, by her endeavours, not only filched from her benefactors their good name, but procured wealth enough to become affluent.

An idea of the gorgeous trappings, and splendid lives of females favoured by fortune, may be formed, on the following paragraph, copied from the Morning Herald, that echo of fashion, of the 28th of February, 1810.

“ A matrimonial union is expected to take place in the next week, between the Marquis of Douglas and his first cousin, Miss Susan Beckford. The bridal dresses are making at Madame Jumont's,* and will be the most splendid that have graced the Hymeneal altar for many years past, one of these, a Brussels lace dress, cost four hundred and sixty, and another, of blond-lace, two

* The reader must bear in memory, that though French wars reduced the poor to beggary; yet our very fashionable females valued the frippery of French madames, to the more substantial and neat work of their country women.

hundred and seventy guineas. Then this fashionable, venal paragraph runs on, in eulogising this intended bride's rare perfections—beautiful—accomplished—singing like Catalani, and coheiress to the immense fortune of her father, the late Mr. Beckford, of Fonthill.

Yet, had not a few years passed, since the unhappy, half-starved, and half-naked Mrs. Flynn, was young, beautiful, and virtuous, and yet, alas! one is cloyed at the luxuriant banquet;—the other starves: the one is clothed by cuttings of a French woman in Brussels lace; the other in rags, is pursued by a butcher, one of the never-weeping race, for stealing a shoulder of mutton.

“Is this just-dealing Nature?”

THE

 G A O L F E V E R,

(Continued from vol. i. page 538.)

SIR Stephen Theodore Jansen, one of the most philanthropic magistrates of the city of London, took great interest in behalf of the regulation of prisons, and the amelioration of the miseries of unfortunate prisoners.

When chamberlain of London, in the year 1767, he published a pamphlet addressed to the Lord Mayor, on the cause of gaol fevers. He was sheriff of London in the year 1750, when the putrid fever, the consequence of filth and foul air, made such dreadful havoc in the Old Bailey sessions.

Sir Theodore strongly recommended a plan similar to that of York castle, which, he said, covered no less than two acres and a rood of ground, with great plenty of water and other conveniences.

He warmly remonstrated against the spot then proposed for the rebuilding of Newgate. He said, it did not occupy more than three quarters of an acre, and that the
number

number of convicts in that prison was more than treble those of York castle.

Doctor Hales said, that the very walls of Old Newgate were impregnated with that poisonous matter (the gaol fever) which is so subtle as to penetrate to the heart of the hardest oak.

Sir Theodore Jansen affirmed, on his own authority, that on the fatal Carthage expedition, the infectious matter arising from a disorder of the same kind as the Newgate fever, was so corrosive that it eat not into the decks only but the timbers of the transport ships! He adds that some putrid matter which had lodged *seven or eight years* in a building at Southampton, infected some hundred persons, *one half of whom* miserably perished.

In the rebellion of 1745, two soldiers carried this gaol fever with them into the army in Scotland, under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, by whom he was in great danger of having had two fine regiments entirely ruined.

During the same year, a ship bound to Virginia, with about one hundred convicts, was taken in the Bay of Biscay, by two French frigates, and carried into Brest. These convicts being prisoners of war, were there distributed in the French hospitals, where they communicated a contagious fever to the French sailors, of which many died, and the rest were shipped on board the Duke d'Anville's fleet, which was in great want of hands. The consequences were, that the Duke lost his life, with 2500 of his seamen, by this pestilential fever, on the tedious passage to Chebucto.

In the year 1772, the assizes for the summer circuit were adjourned for Hampshire from the 17th of July, to the 2d of September, on account of an infectious distemper in Winchester gaol.

A writer on this subject, under the signature of "A Philanthropist," during that rage of the gaol fever, says,

"The public may be rather concerned than surprised, at the deplorable consequences of gaol distempers, and at the fatal instances of their contagion. Several judges, sheriffs, magistrates, juries, and whole courts of judicature,

ture, have been infected by those contagious diseases, which caused the loss of many valuable lives, particularly at the Old Bailey, and formerly at the assizes at Oxford, (see Vol. I. pages 536, 537, 538,) all owing to the horrid neglect of gaolers, and even of the sheriffs and magistrates, whose office it is to compel the gaolers, to the most rigorous repeated orders and attention to their duty, without the least indulgence or remission; as the gaolers are (some excepted) frequently low bred, mercenary and oppressive barbarous fellows, who think of nothing but enriching themselves by the most cruel extortion; and who have less regard for the life of a poor prisoner than for the life of a brute.

“ The felons of this kingdom lie worse than dogs or swine, and are kept much more uncleanly than those animals are in kennels and sties, according to all accounts from clergymen, who are obliged to go to the gaols. From them I have been assured, that the stench and nastiness are so nauseous, that the very atmosphere is pestiferous, and that no persons enter therein without the risque of their health or lives, which prevents even many clergymen and physicians from going there, and assisting their sick and dying fellow-creatures; so that they live and die like brutes, even worse than many beasts, to the disgrace of human nature.

“ Every person endowed with the least principle of real humanity, and of true policy, must be affected with such barbarities, neglects, uncleanness, and dangers. A contagion of that kind may spread over a whole country and kingdom; the greatest precaution ought therefore to be taken in time.

“ The gaolers ought to be forced to have all the rooms sprinkled and fumigated with vinegar every day: as should all the felons, before their appearance in a court of judicature; for some hundred prisoners, particularly criminals, are early killed by a sort of pestilence and vermin among them, occasioned by filth and nastiness, and a corrupted air.

“ All hospitals, prisons, and workhouses, should have bathing-places, for the sake of cleanliness and health, as in Asia.”

This infectious disease also prevailed in many parts of England. On the 30th of October, 1779, a prisoner was discharged from Hertford gaol, and on going to his parish at Ware, and applying for relief, was sent to the work-house, where he communicated the gaol-fever, which proved fatal to many of the inhabitants of that town.

JAMES COOPER,

(*An old Offender,*)

EXECUTED ON KENNINGTON COMMON, FOR MURDER, AUG. 26, 1750, AFTER NUMEROUS ESCAPES FROM JUSTICE.

THIS man was allowed to run a long race of villany before he was overtaken by the avenging arm of justice. He was guilty of several barbarous murders, and had committed many daring robberies, besides the crime for which he suffered. What renders his conduct still more odious, is, the fair chance he had in the outset of life of living by honest means.

He was the son of a butcher at Lexton in Essex; and his father, who had wholly neglected his education, employed him in his own business when he was only ten years of age. Having lived with his father till he was twenty-two, he then married, and opened a shop at Colchester, where he dealt largely as a butcher, and likewise became a cattle-jobber.

At the end of thirteen years Cooper, through neglect, found his losses so considerable that he could no longer carry on business; and one of his creditors arresting him, he was thrown into the King's-bench prison; but, as his wife still carried on trade, he was enabled to purchase the rules. Soon after this, the marshal of the King's-bench dying, he was obliged to pay for the rules a second time.

He now sued for an allowance of the groats*; and they were

* By 23d Geo. II. Debtors, after a certain time in prison, may claim the benefit therein imposed upon the Plaintiff, in the suit on which they are confined; being four-pence per day, and in default of payment of any one weekly

were paid him for about a year, when through neglect of payment he got out of prison, and took a shop in the Mint, Southwark, where he carried on his business with some success, his wife maintaining the family in the country.

At length he was arrested by another creditor, and waited two years for the benefit of an act of insolvency. On his going to Guildford, to take the benefit of the act, he found that the marshal had not inserted his name in the list with the names of the other prisoners: and, having informed his creditor of this circumstance, the marshal was obliged to pay debt and costs; the debtor was discharged, and the marshal fined one hundred pounds for his neglect.

Cooper having now obtained his liberty, and his wife dying about the same time, and leaving four children, he sent for them to London; and not long afterwards married a widow, who had an equal number of children.

He now got unfortunately acquainted with Duncalf and Burrell, the former a notorious thief, and the latter a soldier in the guards; and these men advising him to commence robber, he fatally complied with their solicitations; and the following is an account of a number of robberies which they committed.

Between Stockwell and Clapham they overtook two men, one of whom, speaking of the probability of being attacked by footpads, drew a knife, and swore he would kill any man who should presume to molest them. The parties all drank together on the road, and then proceeded towards London, when Cooper threw down the man that was armed with the knife, and took it from him, and then robbed him and his acquaintance of a watch, about twenty shillings, and their handkerchiefs.

Their next robbery was on Mr. James, a tailor, whom they stopped on the road to Dulwich, and took from him his watch and money. He gave an immediate alarm, which occasioned a pursuit; but the thieves effected an escape. Two of the three robbers wearing soldiers' clothes, Mr. James presumed that they were of the

weekly instalment, they are entitled to their discharge; but the expense of moving the court to this end is generally too great for the prisoner to bear.

guards, and going to the parade in St. James's Park, he fixed on two soldiers as the parties who had robbed him.

As it happened that these men had been to Dulwich about the time that the robbery had been committed, they were sent to prison, and brought to trial; but were acquitted.

The accomplices in iniquity being in waiting for prey near Bromley, Duncalf saw a gentleman riding along the road; and kneeling down, he seized the bridle, and obliged him to quit his horse, when the others robbed him of his watch and two guineas and a half.

Meeting soon afterwards with a man and woman on one horse, near Farnborough in Kent, they ordered them to quit the horse, and robbed them of near forty shillings, and then permitted them to pursue their journey. Soon after the commission of this robbery they heard the voices of a number of people who were in pursuit of them: on which Cooper turned about, and they passed him, but seized on Burrell, one of them exclaiming, "This is one of the rogues that just robbed my brother and sister!"

On this Burrell fired a pistol into the air, to intimidate the pursuers, among whom were two soldiers, whom Duncalf and Cooper encountering at this instant, one of them was so dangerously wounded by his own sword, which Duncalf wrested from his hand, that he was sent as an invalid to Chelsea, where he finished his life.

The brother of the parties robbed, and a countryman, contested the matter with the thieves till the former was thrown on the ground, where Burrell beat him so violently that he died on the spot. The robbers now took their way to London, where they arrived without being pursued.

Cooper and Duncalf, the latter being provided with a bag, went to a farm-house, and stole all the fowls that were at roost; and Duncalf saying, "the first man we meet must buy my chicken;" they had not travelled far before they met with a man whom they asked to buy the fowls. He said he did not want any; but they seized his horse's bridle, knocked him down, and robbed him of above twelve pounds, with his hat and wig, watch and great coat.

On

On one of their walks towards Camberwell, they met a man of fortune named Elish, whose servant was lighting him home from a club. Putting pistols to the gentleman's breast, his servant attempted to defend him; on which they knocked him down with a bludgeon; and the master still hesitating to deliver, they threw him on the ground, and robbed him of his money, watch, and other articles; and, tying him and his servant back to back, threw them into a ditch, where they lay in a helpless manner, till a casual passenger released them from their disagreeable situation.

The villains now returned towards London: in their way, meeting a man with a sack of stolen venison, they robbed him of his great coat, and thirty-six shillings; and a few nights afterwards they robbed a man of a few shillings on the Hammersmith road, and destroyed a lanthorn which he carried, that he should not be able to make any pursuit after them.

On their return home they met a man on horseback whom they would have robbed; but, turning his horse suddenly, he rode to Kensington turnpike, and gave an alarm, while the thieves got through a hedge, and concealed themselves in a field. In the interim, the man they had robbed of a few shillings brought a number of people to take the thieves: but not finding them, though within their hearing, the man went towards his home alone; but the rogues pursuing him, took a stick from him, and beat him severely, for attempting to raise the country on them.

Immediately afterwards they hastened towards Brompton, and stopped a gentleman, whom they robbed of his watch and money. The gentleman had a dog, which flew at the thieves; but Cooper, coaxing the animal into good humour, immediately killed him.

Their next expedition was to Paddington, where they concealed themselves behind a hedge, till observing two persons on horseback, they robbed them of their watches, great coats, and twelve guineas; and though an immediate alarm was given, and many persons pursued them, they escaped over the fields as far as Hampstead-heath, and came from thence to London.

Soon

Soon afterwards they stopped a gentleman between Kingsland and Stoke Newington, who whipped Duncalf so that he must have yielded, but that Cooper at the instant struck the gentleman to the ground. They then robbed him of above seventeen pounds; and, tying his hands behind him, threw him over a hedge, in which situation he remained till some milkmen relieved him on the following morning.

Meeting a man between Knightsbridge and Brompton, who had a shoulder of veal with him, they demanded his money; instead of delivering which, the man knocked Cooper down three times with the veal: but the villains getting the advantage, robbed the man of his hat and meat, but could find no money in his possession.

Cooper being incensed against the person who had first arrested him, who was Mrs. Pearson, of Hill-farm, in Essex, determined to rob her; on which he and his accomplices went to the place; and, learning that she was on a visit, waited till her return at night: when they stopped her and her servant, and robbed them of eight guineas.

On the following day Mrs. Pearson went to a magistrate, and charged a person named Loader with having committed this robbery; but it appearing that this man was a prisoner for debt at the time, the charge necessarily fell to the ground.

Cooper and his associates meeting a farmer named Jackson in a lane near Croydon, he violently opposed them; on which they knocked him down, and dragging him into a field, robbed him of his watch and money, tied him to a tree, and turned his horse loose on a common.

For this robbery two farriers, named Shelton and Kellet, were apprehended; and being tried at the next assizes for Surry, the latter was acquitted, but the former was convicted on the positive oath of the person robbed, and suffered death. *

The three accomplices being out on the road near Dulwich, met two gentlemen on horseback, one of whom

* We must here again repeat, that prosecutors cannot be too cautious in their evidence, or juries too careful what they believe. Many lives have been sacrificed to mistaken evidence.

got from them by the goodness of his horse, and the other attempted to do so, but was knocked down and robbed of his watch and money. In the interim, the party who had rode off (whose name was Saxby) fastened his horse to a gate, and came back to relieve his friend : but the robbers first knocked him down, and then shot him.

Having stripped him of what money he had, they hastened towards London ; but a suspicion arising that Duncalf was concerned in this robbery and murder, he was taken into custody on the following day, and Cooper being taken up on his information, Burrell surrendered, and was admitted an evidence for the crown.

William Duncalf was a native of Ireland, and had received a decent education. He was apprenticed to a miller, who would not keep him on account of his knavish disposition ; and, being unable to procure employment in Ireland, he came to London, where he officiated as a porter on the quays.

Extravagant in his expenses, and abandoned in principle, he commenced smuggler : but being taken into custody by the custom-house officers, he gave information against some other smugglers ; by which he procured his discharge, and was made a custom-house officer.

Variety of complaints respecting the neglect of his duty being preferred to the commissioners of the customs, he was dismissed, and once more commenced smuggler. Among his other offences, he alleged a crime against a custom-house officer, who was transported in consequence of Duncalf's being perjured.

We have already recounted many of his notorious crimes, in conjunction with his accomplices above-mentioned : but he did not live to suffer the punishment that he merited ; for he had not been long in prison before the flesh rotted from his bones, and he died a dreadful monument of the Divine vengeance, though not before he had acknowledged the number and enormity of his crimes.

Cooper frequently expressed himself in terms of regret, that a villain so abandoned as Burrell should escape the hands of justice. In other respects his behaviour was very resigned, and becoming his unhappy situation. He
acknowledged

acknowledged that he had frequently deliberated with Burrell on the intended murder of Duncalf, lest he should become an evidence against them : but he now professed his happiness that this murder had not been added to the black catalogue of his crimes.

When brought to trial he pleaded guilty, and confessed all the circumstances of the murder ; and, after sentence was passed against him, appeared to be a sincere penitent for the errors of his past life.

Being visited by a clergyman and his son, who had known him in his better days, he was questioned respecting the robbery of Mrs. Pearson, which he denied ; but he had no sooner done so, than he was seized with the utmost remorse of mind, which the gaoler attributed to the dread of being hung in chains ; and, questioning him on this subject, he said that he was indifferent about the disposal of his body, but wished to communicate something to the clergyman who attended him : and, when he had an opportunity, confessed that his uneasiness arose from the consciousness of having denied the robbery of Mrs. Pearson, of which he was really guilty.

WILLIAM SMITH,

(A Captain's Clerk in the Royal Navy, Forger of Seamen's Tickets,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, OCTOBER 3, 1750.

WHEN we hear of the commission of crimes by uneducated men, we are led to make some allowance for their ignorance, and the want of precept in their early years ; but when men of liberal education descend to mean and vile practices, we are shocked at the debasement of human nature. Already has our duty too often depicted scholars expiating their sins at the gallows ; and here have we to bring forward another instance of this unpleasant nature. Mr. Smith, like his countrymen Gahagan and Conner, received an excellent education, and, like them, used it for the basest purposes.

The father of this unfortunate man (and this circumstance

stance renders his crimes still more odious) was a pious clergyman, and rector of Kilmore in Ireland, who himself gave his graceless son a tolerable idea of the learned languages at home, sent him to Trinity College, Dublin, to finish his education, and then placed him with an attorney of eminence.

His father dying before the expiration of his clerkship, he abandoned himself so much to his pleasures, that he was induced to commit a forgery on his master; in consequence of which he received a considerable sum: but, being afraid of detection, he resolved to quit his native country.

Hereupon he entered as captain's clerk on board a man of war, and behaved with propriety till about the time that the ship was paid off, when he took to the dangerous practice of forging seamen's tickets: for the captain employing him to make out tickets for the men, he made several of them payable to himself, and disposed of them for above a hundred pounds, and likewise secreted about a hundred pounds more, which were due for wages to the seamen, and stole a sum of money belonging to the surgeon's mate; with all which he decamped.

Repairing to London, he took the name of Dawson, and served some time as clerk to an attorney; but his employer going into the country, and Smith knowing that he had capital connexions in Ireland, he forged a letter in his name, on a merchant in Dublin for 130*l.* and carrying it himself, received the sum demanded, partly in cash, and partly in bank-notes; on which he took his passage to England, and received the amount of the notes in London.

His appearance in the capital now becoming very dangerous, he strolled about the country till he was almost reduced to poverty, when he again went to Ireland, where he forged an order for the payment of 174*l.* 19*s.* which he received, and brought to England, though a King's-bench warrant was issued for his apprehension in Ireland, and he was likewise indicted in that country.

Assuming a false name, he secreted himself more than half a year in England, when being reduced to poverty, he was met by a gentleman who knew him; who remark-

ing on the meanness of his appearance, seemed surprised that, with his abilities, he should be destitute of the conveniences of life.

Smith told a deplorable tale of poverty ; said that he was in a bad state of health, and unable to visit his friends in his present situation ; on which the gentleman clothed him decently, gave him money, and recommended him to a physician, whose skill restored him to health in a short time.

Thus reinstated for the present in fortune and constitution, he no longer visited his benefactors, and was soon reduced to his former state of distress.

His friend again meeting him in the usual wretched plight, asked him the occasion of it ; on which he said, that, being indebted for lodging, he was obliged to sell his clothes ; and that he did not call to thank the physician, because his appearance was so exceedingly abject.

Hereupon his friend once more supplied him with clothes ; on which he went to see the physician, who desired him to repose himself awhile, and conversed with him in the most social way. Smith arising as if to depart, presented a pistol to the doctor's face, and threatened his destruction if he did not instantly give him five guineas : but the other with great indifference, told him that he was an old man, not afraid of death ; that he might act as he thought proper ; but that if he perpetrated his design, the report of the pistol would be infallibly heard by his servants, and that the consequence would prove fatal to himself.

Having said this, the gentleman refused to deliver the money demanded ; on which Smith was so terrified, that he dropped on his knees, wept with apparent concern for his offence, and begged pardon with such appearance of sincerity, that the physician's humanity was excited, and he gave him three guineas, with his best advice for the reformation of his conduct.

Not long after this, Smith casually meeting an acquaintance named Weeks, who stopped at a shop to receive 45*l.* for a bill of exchange, was paid only 10*l.* in part, being desired to call for the rest on a future day. Smith having witnessed what passed, forged Mr. Week's name to a receipt

ceipt for the remaining 35*l.* which he received, and embarked for Holland before the villany was discovered.

The next offence this malefactor committed, or rather intended to commit, afforded the immediate occasion of his being brought to justice. Going to the seat of Sir Edward Walpole, near Windsor, and demanding to see him, he told him he had a bond from Sir Edward to a person named Paterson, who being in distressed circumstances, he (Smith) was commissioned to deliver the bond on a trifling consideration : but Sir Edward, knowing that no such bond subsisted, seized the villain, and committed him to the care of his servants, who conducted him before a magistrate, by whom he was committed to prison at Reading.

He was examined by different justices of the peace on four successive days : but all that he confessed was, that he was born at Andover. This, however, could not be credited, as the tone of his voice testified that he was a native of Ireland ; on which he was committed to the gaol at Reading, for farther examination.

Smith's transactions having rendered him the subject of public conversation, a suspicion arose that he (though then unknown) was the party who had defrauded Mr. Weeks ; on which notice of the affair was sent to London : and Mr. Weeks going to Reading, knew him to be the person who had forged the receipt in his name.

Hereupon he was removed to Newgate, and the next sessions at the Old Bailey was capitally convicted ; and though the jury recommended him to mercy, this could not be obtained, as his character was notorious, and there were five indictments against him.

From the time of his commitment, he behaved in the most penitent manner, expressing the utmost compunction for the crimes of which he had been guilty, and preparing for death with every sign of unfeigned repentance ; though, for some time, he reflected on the Honourable Edward Walpole,* as the author of his destruction, by

* This honourable gentleman was basely beset by a gang of conspirators, instigated by one John Cather, who, while he received Mr. Walpole's protection, made so ill a return, as to be turned out of his house ; and Smith was implicated as having had connexion with that gang of villains. — See the trial of Cather and others.

an interception of the royal mercy ; but being assured that Sir Edward had not interposed to injure him, he took the whole blame of his misfortunes on himself.

He was so reduced in circumstances before the day of execution, and so utterly destitute of friends to procure him a decent interment, that he was induced to insert the following advertisement in the newspapers :

“ In vain has mercy been entreated ; the vengeance of heaven has overtaken me ; I bow myself unrepining to the fatal stroke. Thanks to my all-gracious Creator : thanks to my most merciful Saviour, I go to launch into the unfathomable gulph of eternity !

“ Oh ! my poor soul ! How strongly dost thou hope for the completion of eternal felicity ! Almighty Jehovah, I am all resignation to thy blessed will. Immaculate Jesus ! Oh send some ministering angel to conduct me to the bright regions of celestial happiness.

“ As to my corporeal frame, it is unworthy of material notice ; but for the sake of that reputable family from whom I am descended, I cannot refrain from anxiety, when I think how easily this poor body, in my friendless and necessitous condition, may fall into the possession of the surgeons, and perpetuate my disgrace beyond the severity of the law. So great an impoverishment has my long confinement brought upon me, that I have not a shilling left for subsistence, much less for the procuring the decency of an interment.

“ Therefore, I do most fervently entreat the generosity of the humane and charitably compassionate, to afford me such a contribution as may be sufficient to protect my dead body from indecency, and to give me the consolation of being assured, that my poor ashes shall be decently deposited within the limits of consecrated ground.

“ The deprivation of life is a sufficient punishment for my crimes, even in the rigorous eye of offended justice ; after death has permitted my remains to pass without further ignominy ; then why should inhumanity lay her butchering hands on an inoffensive carcase ? Ah ! rather give me the satisfaction of thinking I shall return to my parent dust, within the confines of a grave.

“ Those who compassionate my deplorable situation,
are

are desired to send their humane contributions to Mrs. Browning's, next door to the Golden Acorn, in Little Wild-street; and that Heaven may reward their charitable disposition, is the dying prayer of the lost and unhappy

WILLIAM SMITH."

When brought into the press-yard, and bound with a halter, he dropped upon his knees, and prayed very devoutly, and acknowledging his crimes, said, he died in charity with all mankind, and hoped for forgiveness at the great Tribunal; which, in the sublime lines of the poet, he thus addressed:

" Thee I will sing, Almighty Maker ! thee,
 " Father of all ! Whether the rising sun
 " Sheds forth his golden beams : or, when at night
 " The moon unveils her orb ; thou art my strength,
 " My life, my glory, and my sure defence,
 " My castle, my deliverance, my hope,
 " My better hope, when dread affliction's hand
 " Wide wasting, me o'erwhelms."

How melancholy the reflection that such abilities should have been thus prostituted !

It would be strange if this address, so calculated to impress the feeling heart, had not produced the intended effect. Mrs. Browning advertised, that the subscriptions of the humane were sufficient to answer the proposed end.

JAMES MACLANE,

(Called the Gentleman Highwayman,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, OCTOBER 3, 1750, FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

THOUGH this man had committed many crimes without detection, for which the law, if proved, would have sentenced him to die ; yet, from his penitence added to the feelings which must be roused for his distressed and worthy brother, he is entitled to some commiseration. Folly first induced him to be extravagant, and folly is the nurse of crimes. With a heart naturally good, step by step, he plunged

plunged himself into ruin, when a countryman, hardened in wickedness, whom he casually met in London, by degrees worked upon his reluctant mind, to follow the villainous pursuits of a highwayman; in the pursuit of which, however, we do not find that he committed the still greater crime of murder.

The unfortunate subject of this memoir was descended from a reputable family in the North of Scotland; but his father, after being liberally educated in the University of Glasgow, went to settle at Monaghan, in the North of Ireland, as preacher to a congregation of dissenters in that place, where he married, and had two sons, the elder of whom was bred to the church, and preached many years to the English congregation at the Hague, and was equally remarkable for his learning, and the goodness of his heart. The younger son is the unfortunate subject of this narrative.

The father dying when he was about eighteen, and his effects falling into his hands, the whole produce was wasted in extravagance before he was twenty years of age. In this dilemma he applied for relief to his mother's relations, with a view to fit him out for the naval service; but as they refused to assist him, he entered into the service of a gentleman named Howard, with whom he came to London.

It was not long after his arrival in the metropolis, before he abandoned his service, and going to Ireland, he again solicited the assistance of his mother's relations, who were either unwilling or unable to afford him relief.

Hereupon he abandoned all thoughts of applying to them for support: but this was for some time liberally afforded him by his brother at the Hague, till his expenses began to be too considerable for a continued support from that quarter; for his brother's whole income would not have been sufficient to maintain him as a gentleman.

Hereupon Maclane found it necessary to procure some employment; and making an interest with a military gentleman who had known his father, he recommended him to a colonel, who had a country seat near Cork. This gentleman engaged him as a butler; and he continued a considerable

considerable time in his service, till, secreting some effects, he was dismissed with disgrace, and rendered unable to procure another place in that part of the kingdom.

Being reduced to circumstances of distress, he conceived an idea of entering into the Irish brigades in the service of France, and communicated his intentions to a gentleman, who advised him to decline all thoughts of such a procedure, as he could have no prospect of rising in his profession, unless he changed his religion ; a circumstance that he would not consent to, for he still retained some sense of the pious education he had received.

Notwithstanding the colonel above-mentioned had dismissed him his service ; yet fearing that his desperate circumstances might induce him to further acts of dishonesty, he intrusted him with the care of his baggage to London ; and Maclane wishing to enter as a private man in Lord Albemarle's troop of horse-guards, solicited the colonel to advance him the necessary sum to procure his admission.

The colonel seemed willing to favour his scheme ; but thinking it dangerous to trust the money in his hands, he committed it to the care of an officer belonging to the troop, which was then in Flanders. Every thing was prepared, and his credentials were ready for his joining the troop, when he suddenly declined all thoughts of entering into the army.

Maclane's ruling passion was dress, as an introduction to the company of women ; and having received about fifty pounds from some females of more good nature than sense, under pretence of fitting himself out for a West-India voyage, he expended the greater part of it in elegant clothes, and commenced a professed fortune-hunter.

At length he married the daughter of Mr. Macglegno, a horse-dealer, with whom he received five hundred pounds, with which he commenced the business of a grocer, in Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, and supported his family with some degree of credit, till the expiration of three years, when his wife died, bequeathing two infant daughters to the care of her parents, who kindly undertook to provide for them ; and both these children were living at the time of their father's ignominious death.

Hitherto

Hitherto Maclane's character, among his neighbours, was unimpeached ; but soon after the death of his wife, he sold off his stock in trade and furniture, and assumed the character of a fine gentleman, in the hope of engaging the attention of some lady of fortune, to which he thought himself entitled by the gracefulness of his person, and the elegance of his appearance.

At the end of about six months he had expended all his money, and became greatly dejected in mind from reflecting on that change of fortune that would probably reduce him to his former state of servitude. While in this state of dejection, an Irish apothecary, named Plunket, * visited him, and inquired into the cause of his despondency. Maclane acknowledged the exhausted state of his finances ; candidly confessed, that he had no money left, nor knew any way of raising a shilling but by the disposal of his wearing apparel ; in answer to which Plunket addressed him as follows :

“ I thought that Maclane had spirit and resolution, with some knowledge of the world. A brave man cannot want ; he has a right to live, and not want the conveniences of life, while the dull, plodding, busy knaves, carry cash in their pockets. We must draw upon them to supply our wants ; there needs only impudence, and getting the better of a few idle scruples ; there is scarce any courage necessary. All whom we have to deal with are mere poltroons.”

These arguments equally ill-founded and ridiculous, co-operated so forcibly with the poverty of Maclane, that he entered into conversation with Plunket on the subject of going on the highway ; and at length they entered into a solemn agreement to abide by each other in all adventures, and to share the profit of their depredations to the last shilling, nor does it appear that either of them defrauded the other.

Maclane, though he had consented to commit depredations on the public, yet was so impressed by that re-

* This Plunket was a daring robber, and we greatly fear that we shall not find him brought to the punishment so often due to his depredations. He certainly, among other base deeds, completed the ruin of Maclane.

morse of conscience which will never quit a mind not wholly abandoned, even when engaged in unlawful actions : that in his first, and in most subsequent attempts, he discovered evident signs of want of that false bravery which villains would call courage.

The first robbery these men committed in conjunction was on Hounslow-heath, where they stopped a grazier, on his return from Smithfield, and took from him about sixty pounds.

This money being soon spent in extravagance, they were induced to take a ride on the St. Alban's road, and seeing a stage-coach coming forward, they agreed to ride up on the opposite sides of the carriage. Maclane's fears induced him to hesitate ; and when at length Plunkett ordered the driver to stop, it was with the utmost trepidation that the other demanded the money of the passengers.

On their return to London at night, Plunkett censured him as a coward, and told him that he was unfit for his business. This had such an effect on him, that he soon afterwards went out alone, and unknown to Plunkett ; and having robbed a gentleman of a large sum, he returned and shared it with his companion.

A short time only had elapsed after this expedition, when he stopped and robbed the honourable Horace Walpole, and his pistol accidentally went off during the attack. For some time did he continue this irregular mode of life, during which he paid two guineas a week for his lodgings, and lived in a style of elegance, which he accounted for by asserting that he had an estate in Ireland producing seven hundred pounds a year.

During this time his children were in the care of his mother-in-law, whom he seldom visited ; and when he did, would not sit down, nor stay long enough for her to give him such advice as might have proved useful to him.

On a particular occasion he narrowly escaped the hands of justice, which terrified him so much, that he went to Holland, on a visit to his brother, who received him with every mark of fraternal affection, and though unsuspecting of the mode in which he lived, yet having but too much

reason to fear that he was of a dissipated turn of mind, gave him the best advice for the regulation of his future conduct.

Having remained in Holland till he presumed his transactions in this country were in some measure forgotten, he returned to England, renewed his depredations on the public, and lived in a style of the utmost elegance. He frequented all the public places, was well known at the gaming-houses, and was not unfrequent in his visits to ladies of easy virtue.

The speciousness of his behaviour, the gracefulness of his person, and the elegance of his appearance, combined to make him a welcome visiter, even at the houses of women of character; and he had so far ingratiated himself into the affections of a young lady, that her ruin would probably have been the consequence of their connection, but that a gentleman casually hearing of this affair, and knowing Maclane to be a sharper, he interposed his timely advice, and saved her from destruction.

Hereupon the visits of the highwayman were forbidden; a circumstance that chagrined him so much, that he sent a challenge to the gentleman, which was treated with that degree of contempt which all challenges ought to be. Our hero, still the more vexed by this circumstance, went to several coffee-houses, and saying that this gentleman had refused to meet him, abused him in the most opprobrious terms; but those who knew the story, said, it was no proof of cowardice for a man of honour to refuse to meet a person of abandoned character.

Encouraged by his repeated successes, Maclane was thrown off his guard, his usual caution forsook him, and he became every day more free to commit robbery, and less apprehensive of detection; for he imagined that Plunkett's turning evidence could alone affect him; and he had no doubt of the fidelity of his accomplice.

On the 26th of June, 1750, Plunkett and Maclane riding out together, met the earl of Eglinton in a post-chaise, beyond Hounslow, when Maclane advancing to the post-boy, commanded him to stop, but placed himself in a direct line before the driver, lest his lordship should shoot him with a blunderbuss, with which he
always

always travelled, for he was certain that the peer would not fire so as to endanger the life of the post-boy. In the interim, Plunkett forced a pistol through the glass at the back of the chaise, and threatened instant destruction unless his lordship threw away the blunderbuss.

The danger of his situation rendered compliance necessary, and his lordship was robbed of his money and a surtout coat. After the carriage drove forward, Maclane took up the coat and blunderbuss, both of which were found in his lodgings when he was apprehended; but when he was afterwards tried for the offence which cost him his life, lord Eglinton did not appear against him.

On the day of the robbery above-mentioned Maclane and Plunkett stopped the Salisbury stage, and took two portmanteaus, which, with the booty they had already obtained, was conveyed to Maclane's lodgings in Pall-Mall, where the plunder was shared.

Immediate notice of this robbery was given in the news-papers, and the articles stolen were described; yet Maclane was so much off his guard, that he stripped the lace from a waistcoat, the property of one of the gentlemen who had been robbed, and happened to carry it for sale to the laceman of whom it had been purchased.

He also went to a salesman in Monmouth-street, named Loader, who attended him to his lodgings, but had no sooner seen what clothes he had to sell, than he knew them to be those which had been advertised; and pretending that he had not money enough to purchase them, said he would go home for more; instead of which he procured a constable, apprehended Maclane, and took him before a magistrate.

Many persons of rank, of both sexes, attended his examination; several of whom were so affected with his situation, that they contributed liberally towards his present support.

Being committed to the Gate-house, he requested a second examination before a magistrate, when he confessed all that was alledged against him; and his confession was taken in writing.

On this he was committed to the prison above-mentioned; and during his confinement a gentleman wrote

to his brother at the Hague, a narrative of his unhappy case, which produced the following answer :

Utrecht, Aug. 16, N. S. 1750.

“ Sir,

“ I received your melancholy letter, but the dismal news it contained had reached me before it arrived, as I have been happily absent from the Hague some time.

“ I never thought that any belonging to me would have loaded me with such heart-breaking affliction, as the infamous crimes of him, whom I will call brother no more, have brought upon me. How often, and how solemnly, have I admonished him of the miserable consequences of an idle life ; and, alas ! to no purpose ! However that be, I have made all the interest possible for his life, filled with shame and confusion, that I have been obliged to make demands so contrary to justice, and hardly knowing with what face to do it, in the character I bear as a minister of truth and righteousness.

“ It is the interest of some friends I have made here that can only save his life ; they have lost no time in applying, and I hope their endeavours will be successful ; but I still hope more, that if Providence should order events, as that he escapes the utmost rigour of the law, and has that life prolonged which he deserves not to enjoy any longer ; I hope, or rather wish, that in such a case he may have a proper sense and feeling of his enormous crimes, which may lay an ample foundation for drawing out the wretched remainder of his days in sorrow and repentance. With respect to me, it would give me consolation, if I could hope that this would be the issue of his trial ; it would comfort me on his account, as he is a man, because I will never acknowledge him in any nearer relation, and because, except such good offices as former ties and present humanity demands from me in his behalf, I am determined never to have any farther correspondence with him, during this mortal life.

“ I have given orders to look towards his subsistence, and what is necessary for it.

“ I am obliged to you, Sir, for your attention, in communicating

municating to me this dismal news, and shall willingly embrace any opportunity of shewing myself,

“ Sir,

“ Your most obedient, &c.”

P. S. If you see this my unhappy brother, let him know my compassion for his misery, as well as my indignation against his crimes : and also, that I shall omit nothing in my power to have his sufferings mitigated. He has, I fear, broke my heart, and will make me draw on the rest of my days in sorrow.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey, Maclane was indicted, and pleaded “ Not guilty,” and made the following able defence :

Mr. Maclane's Defence on Trial.

“ My Lord,

“ Your lordship will not construe it vanity in me, at this time, to say, that I am the son of a divine of the kingdom of Ireland, well known for his zeal and affection to the present royal family and happy government ; who bestowed an education upon me, becoming his character, of which I have in my hand, a certificate from a lord, four members of parliament, and several justices for the county where I was born and received my education.

“ About the beginning of the late French war, my Lord, I came to London, with a design to enter into the military service of my king and country ; but unexpected disappointments obliged me to change my resolution and having married the daughter of a reputable tradesman, to her fortune I added what little I had of my own, and entered into trade in the grocery * way, and continued therein till my wife died. I very quickly after her death found a decay in trade, arising from an unavoidable trust reposed in servants ; and fearing the consequence, I sold off my stock, and in the first place, honestly discharged my debts, and purposed to apply the residue of

* In Welbeck-street Cavendish-square.

my fortune in the purchase of some military employment, agreeable to my first design.

“During my application to trade, my Lord, I unhappily became acquainted with one Plunkett, an apothecary, who, by his account of himself, induced me to believe, he had travelled abroad, and was possessed of clothes and other things suitable thereto, and prevailed on me to employ him in attending on my family, and to lend him money to the amount of one hundred pounds and upwards.

“When I left off trade, I pressed Plunkett for payment, and after receiving, by degrees, several sums, he proposed, on my earnestly insisting that I must call in all debts owing to me, to pay me, part in goods and part in money.

“These very clothes with which I am charged, my Lord, he brought to me to make sale of, towards payment of my debt, and accordingly, my Lord, I did sell them, very unfortunately, as it now appears; little thinking they were come by in the manner Mr. Higden hath been pleased to express, whose word and honour are too well known to doubt the truth.

“My Lord, as the contracting this debt between Plunkett and myself was a matter of a private nature, so was the payment of it; and therefore, it is impossible for me to have the testimony of one single witness to these facts, which (as it is an unavoidable misfortune) I hope, and doubt not, my Lord, that your Lordship and the gentlemen of the jury will duly weigh.

“Is it probable, nay, is it possible, that if I had come by those clothes by dishonest means, I should be so imprudent as to bring a man to my lodgings at noon-day, to buy them, and give him my name and place of residence, and even write that name and place of residence myself in the salesman’s book? It seems to me, and I think must to every man, a madness that no one, with the least share of sense, could be capable of.

“My Lord, in the course of Mr. Higden’s evidence, he hath declared, that he could not be positive either to my face or person, the defect of which, I humbly presume, leaves a doubt of the certainty of my being one of the two persons.

“My

“My Lord, it is very true, when I was first apprehended, the surprise confounded me, and gave me the most extraordinary shock ; it caused a delirium and confusion in my brain, which rendered me incapable of being myself, or knowing what I said or did ; I talked of robberies as another man would do in talking of stories ; but, my Lord, after my friends had visited me in the Gate-house, and had given me some new spirits, and when I came to be re-examined before Justice Lediard, and then asked, if I could make any discovery of the robbery, I then alledged I had recovered my surprise, that what I had talked of before concerning robberies was false and wrong, but it was entirely owing to a confused head and brain.

“This, my Lord, being my unhappy fate ; but, unhappy as it is, as your Lordship is my judge and presumptive counsel, I submit it, whether there is any other evidence against me than circumstantial.

“First, the selling of the lace and clothes, which I agree I did ; for which I account.

“Secondly, the verbal confession of a confused brain ; for which I account.

“All this evidence, I humbly apprehend, is but circumstantial evidence.

“It might be said, my Lord, that I ought to shew where I was at this time.

“To which, my Lord, I answer, that I never heard the time, nor the day of the month, that Mr. Higden was robbed : and, my Lord, it is impossible for me, at this juncture, to recollect where I was, and much more to bring any testimony of it.

“My Lord, in cases where the prisoner lies under these impossibilities of proof, it is hard, nay, it is very hard, if presumption may not have some weight on the side of the prisoner. I humbly hope, and doubt not, but that doctrine will not escape your Lordship’s memory to the jury.

“My Lord, I have lived in credit, and have had dealings with mankind, and therefore humbly beg leave, my Lord, to call about a score to my character, or more, if your Lordship pleases : and then, my Lord, if, in your Lordship’s

Lordship's opinion, the evidence against me should be by law only circumstantial, and the character given of me by my witnesses should be so far satisfactory, as to have equal weight, I shall most willingly and readily submit to the jury's verdict."

Nine gentlemen gave him a very good character.

The jury brought him in guilty, without going out of court; when he was called to receive sentence, he attempted to make an apology, but only said, "My Lord, I cannot speak;" what he intended to offer was next day published, importing, that he hoped some circumstances might entitle him to so much mercy, as might remove him from being a disgrace to his family, and enable him to pass his days in penitence and obscurity.

Maclane having been educated as a dissenter, was attended, at his own request, by Dr. Allen, a reverend divine of the Presbyterian persuasion.

The doctor, at his first visit, found this unhappy person under inexpressible agonies of mind, arising from a deep sense, not only of his misery, but of his guilt. He declared, that although most of those with whom he had lately conversed ridiculed all religion, yet the truths of Christianity had been so deeply rooted in his mind by a pious education, that he never entertained the least doubt about them, even while he was engaged in courses of the most flagitious wickedness, by which it became his interest to disbelieve them.

He declared also, that "neither death, nor the violence and infamy with which, in his case, it would be attended, gave him the least uneasiness; but expressed the most dreadful apprehension of coming into the presence of the Almighty, whose laws he had known only to violate, and the motions of whose spirit he had felt only to suppress."

The doctor replied, that though these apprehensions were just, yet, if he could be sincerely penitent, he might, through the merits and intercession of the blessed Jesus, be forgiven; but pressed him earnestly not to deceive himself, adding, "It is impossible for me to know your heart; and your present circumstances make it very difficult for you yourself to know it;" he then apprized him
of

of the great difficulty of obtaining a rational hope, that a repentance is genuine, which had no beginning till guilt was overtaken by punishment, and the terrors of death were displayed before him. Maclane felt the force of this argument, but said, that if the utmost abhorrence of himself, for the enormities of his life, if the deepest sense of his ingratitude to God, and the violation of his conscience, which always reproached him: if indignation at himself, for the injuries which he had done to society, and the distresses which he had brought upon his relations, were marks of sincere penitence, he hoped, that indeed, he was a penitent sinner: and that, although he had but little time to live, and therefore was unable to evince the sincerity of his repentance, by many fruits of it, yet if he knew any thing of his heart, he had no desire of life, but as an opportunity of fulfilling the good resolutions, which the near view of death had produced. "What is life," said he, "with the loss of my good name! What indeed is life, with all its advantages? I profess to you, Sir, that I have had more pleasure in one hour's conversation with you, than in all the gay vanities I have ever engaged in."

In one of these conversations the doctor took occasion to tell him, that the defence which he had made at his trial was not a token of that sincerity of heart, which he had so solemnly professed: to this he answered, that what he had done on that occasion, was by the advice of an attorney, that he thought it a just defence in law; and that, if it had preserved his life, it would have prevented the disgrace which his death would bring upon his family, and would have afforded him an opportunity of making some reparation to society, by becoming a useful member of it, and of proving the sincerity of his repentance by his reformation.

Upon an enquiry if his father was really a minister in Ireland, he burst into a sudden flood of tears, and acknowledged it, expressing, in the most affecting manner, his regret for having acted in violation of the principles which had been early implanted in his mind, by a tender and pious parent; a circumstance which he said greatly aggravated his guilt.

But he often lamented, that he had not been brought

up to some employment, which would have made industry necessary, instead of to writing and accounts, which, as a genteeler business, was chosen for him: and once he added, "O! Sir, I have often, in my necessities, before I had broken in upon my innocence, thought, that had I had a mechanic trade in my hands that would have employed my whole time, I should have been a happy man."

Dr. Allen told him it had been reported, that he lived upon very ill terms with his wife, and that his cruelty hastened her death; he absolutely denied it, and indeed his wife's mother took leave of him with great tenderness, and uncommon ardour of affection. When he was asked, if he had any hope of a respite, he answered very little; and being told, that the great number of robberies committed by persons of genteel appearance, rendered it very improbable that he should be spared; he said he acquiesced, and desired his example might be pressed as a warning to young persons; adding, with great earnestness, "Glad should I be, if, as my life has been vile, my death might be useful."

He acknowledged, that his friends having once raised a little contribution to enable him to ship himself for Jamaica, he carried it to the gaming-table at the masquerade; where at first he had some success, and hoped to win enough to buy a little military post; but at length he lost his ALL, and having alienated his friends, by his abuse of their bounty, and disposed of whatever he could either pawn or sell, he, by the persuasion of Plunkett, took to the highway. With him, who was his only accomplice, he committed many robberies, but had always shuddered at the thought of murder, and was thankful to God, that he had not incurred the guilt of shedding innocent blood.

After the death warrant came down, no additional dejection or sadness appeared in his countenance, but rather a more steady and composed resignation. He asked Dr. Allen whether he should receive the sacrament, on the morning of the execution, with the other criminals, to which he readily consented, but said, that he hoped it was not necessary to warn him against considering it as a charm, or passport, which he feared was too frequently done

done by those who are grossly ignorant, or invincibly stupid.

A youth who had been condemned, but was afterwards ordered to be transported for life, chose to continue in the cell with Maclane; and, as they had opportunity, they went among the other prisoners who were ordered for execution, to instruct them, pray with them, and assist them in their preparation for death. But Maclane was greatly shocked at the insensibility and profaneness of some, and pitied the souls which were going into eternity in so hopeless a state.

These incidents the doctor improved as evidences of his sincerity. The day before his execution, in the presence of several gentlemen from Holland, he gave him a letter from his brother, at the sight of which he fell into an agony of grief, and said, "O! my dear brother! I have broken his heart!"—After some pause, as if in doubt, whether he should read it or not, he said, "I have been long educated to sorrow, and cutting as this letter will be to my heart, I must read it—beginning with the first words, "Unhappy brother," he cried out in great agony of mind, "Unhappy indeed!" and then, endeavouring to compose himself, read the letter with emotions suitable to the solemnity of its contents, and desired to read it a second time. It was then proposed to the company present, to unite in a solemn prayer to God for him, they consented, and though strangers to the prisoner, the minister and each other, there was not a dry eye among them. In the evening of the same day, he took his last farewell of Mr. H. a friend of his brother, and of Dr. Allen; he said, "This is the bitterness of death:" he eagerly embraced them both, dropped suddenly down on his knees, and prayed to God to bless them for ever.

He spent all that night with the youth who has been mentioned before, in his devotions. At going into the cart he was heard to say, "O! my God, I have forsaken thee! but I will trust in thee!" and all the accounts of his behaviour in his passage to the place of execution, and at it, concur in testifying that he went through the whole awful scene with manly firmness, joined with all the appearance of true devotion: "And I hope," says the
2 x 2 doctor,

doctor, "that he has found that mercy with God, which he so earnestly sought."

To this mournful account of a criminal, struggling with terror and remorse, in the expectation of a sudden, a violent, and ignominious death, it may not be improper to add a view of the prosperous robber, while he is enjoying that which he gains with such a dreadful hazard, and mixes unsuspected in the most gay and elevated scenes of life. A comparison will thus be more easily made, and it can be determined with greater certainty, what is the balance of the account, and on which side it will fall; we have therefore collected the following particulars from many parts of Dr. Allen's account, and thrown them together in this place.

When he was in lodgings at Chelsea, and probably lived in external splendour, the agitation and disturbance of his mind was so great, that he was often observed to roll about the floor of his room in great agony.

When he was among ladies and gentlemen of rank and fortune, and even while he was engaged in the most splendid and captivating entertainments, the anguish of his mind was too strong to be suppressed, and his company would then ask, what it was that produced the melancholy and discontent which they perceived in his countenance.

In a good cause no man had greater courage than Maclane, but in every scheme of villainy he was a coward. The moment in which he entered on the highway, he totally lost his peace of mind, and became the slave of dreadful apprehensions and perpetual terror.

In these circumstances, could the gaiety of his appearance, or the favour of the great, the company of women, or the splendour of a masquerade, put him in possession of any thing equivalent to one hour of peace and safety? Let those answer whose love of pleasure is most predominant, their decision will be in favour of virtue; neither let the idle nor the voluptuous flatter themselves that they shall be able to procure the same gratifications without the same alloy.

The state of the mind in a contemplation of the crime, is very different from that which follows the commission; the

the sufferings of guilt cannot be realized by imagination, nor eluded in the experiment. Let those, therefore, who are yet innocent make no approaches to the precipice from which this man fell, and let those whose crimes have not yet been detected, hasten from the brink.

Arrived at Tyburn, he looked sadly up at the gallows, and with a heart-felt sigh, exclaimed, "O Jesus!"

"In his parch'd eyes the deep-sunk tears express
"His endless misery, his dire distress."

He took no notice of the populace, all his attention being fixed upon his devotions, and spoke to no one, except the constable that first apprehended him, who desired to shake hands with him, and intreated his forgiveness, to which the dying man, giving his hand, replied, "I forgive you, and may God bless you and your friends; may he forgive my enemies, and receive my soul."

He suffered along with William Smith, the malefactor last named.

It is somewhat worthy of remark and regret, that two young men, tenderly brought up, and well educated—and still more melancholy, both the sons of pious clergymen, should, side by side, have rendered up their forfeited lives to the injured laws of their country.

AMY HUTCHINSON,

BURNT AT ELY, NOV. 7, 1750, FOR PETIT TREASON, IN THE MURDER
OF HER HUSBAND.

WE have here to present another instance of the dreadful consequences attending the seduction of innocent females. Their tender hearts, devoted alone to love, still incline to the base destroyers of their peace of mind. Of this we have now a sad proof before us. When betrayed and abandoned, this unfortunate girl in vain sought a palliative to her misery, in marriage with another man: but the unexpected re-appearance of her faithless seducer, again blew up her first flame of love: and under the vain
hope

hope of nourishing an unlawful commerce, she poisoned her husband !

The Isle of Ely gave birth to this malefactor, who was the daughter of parents who were rather in low circumstances, yet contrived to keep her at school till she was twelve years of age ; rightly judging that a tolerable education is frequently the ground-work of prudent and dutiful behaviour.

At the age of sixteen she was grown a tall fine girl ; at which time she was addressed by a young man, whose love she returned with equal affection. Her father being apprized of the connection, strictly charged his daughter to decline it ; but there was no arguing against love ; the connection continued till it became criminal.

The young fellow beginning to grow tired of her, though he had seduced her under promise of marriage, declared his resolution of going to London, but said that he would wed her on his return. Shocked at this apparent infidelity, she determined on revenge : a revenge that proved fatal to herself, and which she had but too easy a method of carrying into execution.

The former lover had no sooner left her, than she was addressed by a young man named John Hutchinson : and though he had been always extremely disagreeable to her, she agreed to marry him the very next day after he had paid her a formal visit.

The consequence was, that the marriage took place immediately, but her admirer happening to return from London, just as the newly-wedded pair were coming out of church, the bride was greatly affected at the recollection of former scenes, and the irrevocable ceremony which had now passed.

She was unable to love the man she had married, and doated to distraction on him she had rejected ; and only a few days after her marriage, admitted him to his former intimacy with her ; a circumstance that gave full scope to the envious tongues of her neighbours.

Hutchinson becoming jealous of his wife, a quarrel ensued ; in consequence of which he beat her with great severity : but this producing no alteration in her conduct, he

he had recourse to drinking, with a view to avoid the pain of reflection on his situation.

In the interim, his wife and the young fellow continued their guilty intercourse uninterrupted; but considering the life of her husband as a bar to their happiness, it was resolved to remove him by poison; for which purpose the wife purchased a quantity of arsenic; and Mr. Hutchinson being afflicted with an ague, and wishing for something warm to drink, the wife put some arsenic in ale, of which he drank very plentifully; and then she left him, saying, she would go and buy something for his dinner.

Meeting her lover, she acquainted him with what had passed; on which he advised her to buy more poison, fearing the first might not be sufficient to operate; but its effects were too fatal, for he died about dinner-time on the same day.

Her mother visiting her on the day that the unhappy man died, and being suspicious, from her former conduct, that some indirect methods had been used to destroy him, she said, "I am afraid you have done something to your husband;" to which Mrs. Hutchinson only said, "What makes you think so, mother?"

The deceased was buried on the following Sunday, and the next day the former lover renewed his visits; which occasioned the neighbours to talk very freely of the affair. The young widow was taken into custody the same day, on suspicion of having committed the murder.

The body of the deceased being now taken up, the Coroner's jury was summoned, and the verdict they gave was, "That John Hutchinson had died by poison:" on which the woman was committed to the gaol at Ely.

She had counsel to plead for her on the trial; but the evidence against her being such as satisfied the jury, she was convicted, and ordered for execution.

After conviction, she confessed the justice of those laws by which she had been condemned. She was attended by a clergyman, to whom she acknowledged the magnitude of her crime, and professed the most unfeigned penitence.

Though it does not appear that the base seducer of this unfortunate woman was brought to condign punishment,

yet

yet are we sure, that his conscience haunted him with stings, to the very last hour of his guilty life.

The miserable woman, willing to make atonement for her crimes, left a written paper with the clergyman who attended her in her last moments, on which was the following excellent advice to her own sex:

“All the good I can now do, after my repentance and abhorrence of my abominable crime, and prayers to God, is,

“First, To warn all young women to acquaint their friends, when any addresses are made to them; and, above all, if any base or immodest man dare to insult you, with any thing shocking to chaste ears.

“Secondly, That they should never leave the person they are engaged to in a pet, nor wed another to whom they are indifferent, in spite; for if they come together without affection, the smallest matter will separate them.

“Thirdly, That being married, all persons should mutually love, forgive, and forbear; and afford no room for busy meddlers to raise and foment jealousy between two who should be one.

(Signed)

“AMY HUTCHINSON,”

On the 10th of August, 1767, Ann Sowerby underwent this dreadful sentence at York, for poisoning her husband. She declared, just before she was brought out of the cell, that a man gave her some nux vomica for that shocking purpose, which she burnt; that he told her he had given his wife some of it, and that she died soon after: that some days after he brought her some arsenic, and assisted her in mixing it up with curds, which she gave him for breakfast, who died in a few hours after. The fact was, that she had had criminal intercourse with the man, and came to the horrid resolution of removing her husband in the way he had done his wife.

VOLUNTARY

VOLUNTARY PUNISHMENT OF GENTOO WIDOWS,

ON THE DEATH OF THEIR HUSBANDS.

It has been our painful duty to record so many dreadful instances of women murdering, and otherwise ill-treating their husbands, that our readers will almost be inclined to doubt the fact, that there are parts of this habitable globe, where females, so far from lifting a hand against, will not even survive the loss of their partner in this life; but offer themselves voluntary sacrifices on his funeral pile.

To relate the mode of punishment in different parts of the world, is a prominent feature in the proposals for the publication of this work; and though it may be observed, that the law of the East itself inflicts no penalty in such cases, yet custom, from time immemorial, has devoted the widowed victim to the flames. A description, therefore, of a punishment, self-inflicted, will not, we presume, prove the least acceptable part of our volumes. This we have been able to accomplish, from meeting with a valuable work on the historical events relative to the provinces of Bengal, and the empire of Hindostan, by the late J. Z. Holwell, Esq. who long resided in that country.

Among other historical facts, Mr. Holwell gives the following circumstantial account of the burning of a Gentoo lady, with her husband's body, of which, with several other English officers, he was an eye-witness.

“At five of the clock in the morning, of the 4th of February, 1742-3, died Rhaam Chund Pundit, of the Mahahrattar tribe, aged twenty-eight years; his widow, aged between seventeen and eighteen, as soon as he expired, disdaining to wait the term allowed her for reflection, immediately declared to the Bramins and witnesses present, her resolution to burn; as the family was of no small consideration, all the merchants of Cossimbuzaar, and her relations, left no arguments unessayed to dissuade her from it. Lady Russel, with the tenderest humanity, sent her several messages to the same purpose; the infant

state of her children (two girls and a boy, the eldest not four years of age) and the terrors and pain of the death she sought, were painted to her in the strongest and most lively colours; she was deaf to all—she gratefully thanked Lady Russel, and sent her word, “She had now nothing to live for,” but recommended her children to her protection. When the torments of burning were urged *in terrorem* to her, she, with a resolved and calm countenance, put her finger into the fire, and held it there a considerable time; she then, with one hand, put fire into the palm of the other, sprinkled incense on it, and fumigated the Bramins.

The consideration of her children, left destitute of a parent, was again urged to her. She replied, “He that made them would take care of them.” She was then given to understand, she should not be permitted to burn;* this, for a short space, seemed to give her deep affliction, but soon recollecting herself, she told them, “death was in her power, and that if she was not allowed to burn, according to the principles of her cast, she would starve herself.”—Her friends finding her peremptory and resolved, were obliged at last to assent.

The body of the deceased was carried down to the water side, early the following morning; the widow followed about ten o'clock, accompanied by three very principal Bramins, her children, parents, and relations, and a numerous concourse of people. The order of leave for her burning did not arrive from Hosseyn Khan Fouzdaar of Morshadabad, until after one, and it was then brought by one of the Soubah's own officers, who had orders to see that she burnt voluntary.

The time they waited for the order was employed in praying with the Bramins, and washing in the Ganges. As soon as it arrived, she retired, and stayed for the space of half an hour in the midst of her female relations, amongst whom was her mother; she then divested herself of her bracelets and other ornaments, and tied them in a

* The Gentoo's are not permitted to burn, without an order from the Mahommedan government, and this permission is commonly made a perquisite of.

cloth,

cloth, which hung like an apron before her, and was conducted by her female relations to one corner of the pile; on the pile was an arched arbour, formed of dry sticks, boughs, and leaves, open only at one end, to admit her entrance. In this the body of the deceased was deposited his head at the end opposite to the opening. At the corner of the pile, to which she had been conducted, the Bramin had made a small fire, round which she and the three Bramins sat for some minutes, one of them gave into her hand a leaf of the bale tree (the wood commonly consecrated to form part of the funeral pile) with sundry things on it, which she threw into the fire; one of the others gave her a second leaf, which she held over the flame, whilst he dropped three times some ghee on it, which melted and fell into the fire, (these two operations, were preparatory symbols of her approaching dissolution by fire) and whilst they were performing this, the third Bramin read to her some portions of the Aughtorrah Bhade,* and asked her some questions, on which she answered with a steady and serene countenance; but the noise was so great, we could not understand what she said, although we were within a yard of her. These over, she was led with great solemnity three times round the pile, the Bramins reading before her; when she came the third time to the small fire, she stopped, took the rings off her toes and fingers, and put them to her other ornaments; here she took a solemn majestic leave of her children, parents, and relations; after which, one of the Bramins dipt a large wick of cotton in some ghee, and gave it, ready lighted, into her hand, and led her to the open side of the arbour; there all the Bramins fell at her feet: after she had blessed them, they retired, weeping; by two steps she ascended the pile, and entered the arbour. On her entrance she made a profound reverence at the feet of the deceased, and advanced and seated herself by his head; she looked, in silent meditation, on his face, for the space of a minute, then set fire to the arbour in three places; observing that she had set fire to leeward, and that the flames blew from her, instantly seeing her error, she rose and set fire to windward, and

* A paraphrastic comment on the Shasta.

resumed her station. Ensign Daniel with his cane separated the grass and leaves on the windward side, by which means we had a distinct view of her as she sat. With what dignity and undaunted a countenance she set fire to the pile the last time, and assumed her seat, can only be conceived, for words cannot convey a just idea of her. The pile being of combustible matters, the supporters of the roof were presently consumed, and it fell in upon her."

In a short account of the execution of Elizabeth Herring, on the 13th of September, 1773, for the murder of her husband, by stabbing him in the throat with a knife, we find a minute description of the mode of punishment for the commission of this horrid crime.

"Mrs Herring was placed on a stool, something more than two feet high, and a chain being placed under her arms, the rope round her neck was made fast to two spikes, which being driven through a post against which she stood; when her devotions were ended, the stool was taken from under her, and she was strangled. When she had hung about fifteen minutes, the rope was burnt, and she sunk until the chain supported her, forcing her hands up to a level with her face, and the flame being furious, her body was soon consumed. The crowd of spectators was so immensely great, that it was a long time before the faggots could be placed for the execution."

JOHN VICARS,

EXECUTED AT ELY, NOV. 7, 1750, FOR THE MURDER OF HIS WIFE.

THIS unfortunate man appears to have been goaded on to the commission of the rash deed for which he suffered, by the ill conduct of his wife and her mother; hence he too, though a crime in itself so heinous, cannot be passed over, without one single lamentation on his fate. Though the law cannot take cognizance of our passions, in all cases, yet the best of men have sometimes been driven, in a momentary madness, to do a deed which, if not punished for it, has for ever destroyed their peace of mind. So
it

it appears in the case of Vicars; who we may conclude, had not the law terminated his misery, would never more have tasted the sweet repose of a quiet conscience. While females reflect on the fate of this man, let them resolve to guard against the too free use of their tongues; and let men, however aggravated by them, endeavour to curb their passions in their resentment.

Amy Hutchinson and John Vicars suffered together, the one for the murder of her husband, the other for destroying his wife; and yet we find different punishments. It has been already observed, that the consuming of the strangled body of a woman for such a crime, has been of late years dispensed with, for though it gave not an additional pang, yet it shocked humanity in a ten-fold degree. This part of the sentence of the law was, nevertheless, founded on a well-known part of the Christian system of religion, which says, "That wives should be obedient to their husbands in all things." Hence the law dealt more severely with a woman, by deeming her crime *petit treason*, next in degree to high treason, which is, encompassing the death of the reigning king, who is deemed the common parent of his subjects.

John Vicar's grandfather and father were born at Oxford, and lived in good credit, till misfortunes obliged them to go to Dodington in the isle of Ely, where he was born.—His father dying and leaving him young, and his mother taking a second husband, he had but a slight education: at thirteen he was apprenticed to Mr. J. Aaron, of Holkham, Norfolk, gardener to Thomas Coke, Esq. where he served his time faithfully; and was employed in the gardens, till an intrigue with a married woman, obliged him to leave that place; and having a recommendation to Mr. Bridgman, gardener at Kensington palace, he went and worked some time there, and then engaged himself to Captain Duroy, of the Exeter man of war, and served him about nine months and being paid off, assisted in a party of smugglers about a year, and being taken prisoner with others by a Custom house smack, near Rye, was committed to the new-gaol in Southwark, tried and acquitted by the indulgence of the court. He then was employed in the Earl of Oxford's gardens at Chelsea,

Chelsea, under Mr. Miller, where he staid one year; and afterwards worked successively at R. Man's, Esq. of Linton, near Maidstone, Kent; at the Duke of Bolton's, at Hackworth, Hants; at Lady Derby's, near Chichester; for Mr. King, at Brompton, Middlesex; at Lord Castlemain's, on Epping-Forest; for John Husday, near Thorney; for Mr. Beals, at Whittlesea, from most of which places he was obliged to abscond for some criminal correspondence with single or married women; he next lived at Adam England's, the sign of the Dolphin, in Whittlesea, during three years, and worked for several gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

Falling into company with one Anne Easom, he made love to her and married her. They lived seven years very happily, but had no children; about that time she began to be very much afflicted with illness, which altered her temper so much, that it occasioned frequent uneasiness between them, and gave him such disgust, that he listed in the Duke of Bedford's regiment as a six months' man, where he continued about a year, and then came to his wife again, and lived with her till her death, which happened about twelve months after. He continued a widower about a year, in which time, observing one Mary Hainsworth to keep a great deal of company, he asked her one evening, if they were all her sweethearts; she replied, no. He then offered himself, met with great encouragement, and from that time says he was refused no favours. But had no intention of marriage, nor did he promise any such thing. They continued a criminal familiarity for a fortnight, all which time she pressed him to marry her. He told her there was no occasion for her to be in such a hurry; but she replied, she was with child: and if he would not marry her, she would get a warrant and force him. He said, he should not care to be forced to do any thing against his will: on which she replied, if he would not marry her, she would certainly make away with herself. He then kept away for two or three nights to see how she would behave. In the mean time came a hackney coachman to town, with whom she seemed to be so very much taken, that a woman who worked in his garden told him that he had lost his sweetheart. He said

said he was glad of that, thinking he had got a good rid-
dance, but he was not so fortunate. For two or three
nights after this, the coachman left the place; on which
she flung herself in his way, and he says, he was so simple
as to renew their former acquaintance, but not on the
score of marriage, which she well knew, and agreed rea-
dily to keep him company; but after two or three nights
she threatened him again with a warrant, if he would not
marry her. At last his affections growing stronger, on her
repeated assurance that she would make him a careful
and industrious wife, he unfortunately married her; but
not till he had earnestly desired, that if there was any other
person for whom she had a greater respect than himself,
she would consider of it, for when once married, it would
be too late.—This unhappy woman had learned the glo-
ver's business, which she followed, and they lived very
lovingly for about two months: but after that time, he
says, words frequently arose between them, occasioned
by her adhering to bad advice given her by her mother
and others, by some of whom, she owned to him, she
was advised to poison him.—From words they came to
blows, to which she provoked him, though he intreated
her to forbear. At length she went away from him to
live with her mother, and notwithstanding the most ear-
nest entreaties, refused to return. One day going by her
mother's house with some fruit, and seeing his wife there,
he went in, offered her some fruit, and forced a kiss from
her, desiring to be reconciled; her mother came in and
after giving loose to her tongue, in a virulent manner, fell
to beating him, swearing she would kill him, and advising
his wife, who had a knife in her hand, to stab him, which
she endeavoured to do; but he feeling something against
his belly, ran backwards to the door, and fell upon the
threshold with the old woman upon him; he rolled her
off, and getting up, found his thumb cut, a hole in his
shirt, and the skin ruffled, then thinking himself in great
danger, went home. But his mother-in-law and his wife
swore the peace against him, and had a warrant to take
him up. Upon April 24, therefore, to prevent their serv-
ing it, he went to a gentleman's about three miles from
Whittlesea, to beg his advice, which was to make a bill
of

of sale of his goods and go off.—He resolved to do so, and came back to Whittlesea, about six o'clock the same evening. By the way, on seeing his wife in the new shop which her mother had provided for her, his heart beat with love for her, but on the thoughts of her obstinacy, and that his life or ruin was what they aimed at, by laying him in gaol, his resentment got the better of his reason. He stepped into the shop where she was sitting at work, and placing his left hand under her chin (he apprehended she thought he was going to kiss her, because she seemed to smile) and drawing his knife out of his pocket with his other hand, he made an attempt to cut her throat, but was prevented by her putting her hands up when she felt the knife: He then placed the point of the knife under the left ear, the back part upward, and stuck it downward as they stick sheep. She once cried Murder; he said, “Molly, ’tis now too late, you should have been ruled in time.”—He then run into the street and called out for somebody to take him prisoner, but every one was afraid; on which he threatened if they did not, he would do more mischief; on which one Tho. Boone taking hold of his arm, he surrendered himself: but appeared as a lunatic, till next day, when he was very calm.—This account was signed by himself, and it being reported that he had committed more murders, he further desired it might be explained as follows:

“While he was gardener to R. Man, Esq; the garden was often robbed, on which his master set him to watch one night armed with a gun and a hanger, and fixed a trap at the supposed place of entrance: The thief came and soon saw reason to run off; but Vicars cut him in the leg with his hanger; besides which he was so unfortunate as to be taken in the trap, the teeth of which reaching about the middle of his body, struck into him, so that being carried before a justice and committed to Maidstone gaol, he soon after died of his wounds; but this I apprehend (says he) cannot be deemed a murder.”

While in prison, he said, that he dearly loved his wife, but her provocation was so great, and she was such a loose character, that he could not let her live, nor live without her, he first intending to kill himself also. He persisted

persisted in it, that he should do the same again, on such provocation, though he injured many in the same way without reluctance.

Vicars at the tree, behaved very steadily, but penitent, praying with the minister, and singing psalm the 6th, which he chose, and joined also in Hutchinson's psalm (LI.) He shook hands with several, and bowed to the company, affecting much discourse, and reflecting on several people of Whittlesea by name; in short the conduct of the man was such, and there was in him such a mixture of penitence and unconcern, that sensible people were at a loss how to pronounce their opinion about him. He desired to see the woman first despatched; and accordingly her face and hands being smeared with tar, and having a garment daubed with pitch, after a short prayer the executioner strangled her, and twenty minutes after the fire was kindled, and burnt half an hour. He went then to Vicars, who very undauntingly helping him to fix the knot, he immediately threw himself off, and expired in a few minutes.

JOHN CARR,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, NOVEMBER 16, 1750, FOR FORGERY.

*Comprising a very curious memoir of the impositions practised on each other,
by male and female fortune-hunters.*

THE history of this man, in its commencement, reminds us of the old adage, "Diamond cut diamond," an Irish Fortune-hunter *versus* an English Swindling Courtesan. The lady, however, it seems, outwitted the gentleman. Hence we see, how far men are frequently out-done by females in the wiles of love, they bend every joint to their purpose, and to the utmost strain our purse-strings. Had the unfortunate subject of our present inquiry, taken lessons from the syren who thus cozened him, and avoided retaliation upon others, his memory would not have been subject to our comments.

John Carr was a native of the north of Ireland. His parents were respectable, and his education was genteel. At sixteen years of age he was sent to reside with a kinsman in Dublin, who, when he grew to years of maturity, put him into business, as a wine and brandy merchant, and he seemed to be in the road to success ; but his friend dying, he attached himself to bad company, neglected his business, lost his customers, and was soon greatly reduced in his circumstances.

A man of fortune, who was one of his abandoned associates, invited Carr to pass part of the summer at his seat in the country ; and setting out together they stopped at Kilkenny, where some passengers quitted a coach ; among whom was a young lady, whose elegant person and appearance impressed Carr with an idea that she was of rank, and inspired him with the first sentiments of love that he ever felt.

Throwing himself from his horse, he handed her into the inn ; and a proposal being made that the company should sup together, it was agreed to on all hands ; while the supper was preparing, Carr applied himself to the coachman, to learn the history of the young lady ; but all the information he could receive was, that he had taken her up at Dublin, and that she was going to the Spa at Mallow.

Carr being anxious to become better acquainted with the lady, prevailed on the company to repose themselves the next day at Kilkenny, and take a view of the Duke of Ormond's seat, and the curiosities of the town. This proposal being acceded to, the evening was spent in the utmost harmony and good-humour : and the fair stranger, even then, conceived an idea of making a conquest of Mr. Carr, from whose appearance she judged that he was a man of distinction.

In the morning she dressed herself to great advantage, not forgetting the ornament of jewels, which she wore in abundance ; so that when she entered the room, Carr was astonished at her appearance. She found the influence she had over him, and resolved to afford him an early opportunity of speaking his sentiments ; and while the company

pany was walking in the gallery of the Duke of Ormond's palace this opportunity offered.

The lady affected displeasure at this explicit declaration: but soon assuming a more affable deportment, she told him she was an Englishwoman of rank; that his person was not disagreeable to her, and that if he was a man of fortune, and the consent of her relations could be obtained, she should not be averse to listening to his addresses. She further said, that she was going to spend part of the summer at Marlow, where his company would be agreeable; and he followed her to that place, contrary to the advice of his friend, who had formed a very unfavourable opinion of the lady's character.

Here he dissipated so much cash in company with this woman, that he was compelled to borrow of his friend, who remonstrated on the impropriety of the connexion: but Carr still kept her company, and at the end of the season returned with her to Dublin.

Here the lovers agreed to sail for England, and Carr sold some small estates, and borrowing all the money he possibly could, delivered the whole to his mistress.

Preparations were now made for the voyage, and Carr employed himself in procuring a passage to England; but in his absence the lady shipped all the effects on board a vessel bound for Amsterdam; and having dressed herself in man's apparel, she embarked and sailed, leaving Carr to regret his ill-judged credulity.

On his return home, discovering how he had been robbed, he was at first half distracted with his loss; but, on cooler reflection, he thought it would be in vain to pursue the thief; on which he sold the few trifles that remained of his property, which producing about one hundred pounds, he came to London, and soon spent the whole in debauchery and extravagance.

Thus reduced, he enlisted as a foot-soldier, and served some years before he was discharged; after which, he entered as a mariner at Plymouth, whence he came to London, and opened a shop in Hog-lane, St. Giles's. He now married a girl who he thought had money, but soon discovering her poverty he abandoned her, and removed to

Short's Gardens, where he entered into partnership with a cork-cutter.

Having soon ingratiated himself into the esteem of the customers, he opened shop on his own account, and soon got all the business from his late partner. This, however, proved of no service to him, for getting into bad company, he frequented the gaming-tables, and became the dupe of sharpers.

These villains determined to possess themselves of all his money, offered to procure him a wife of fortune, though they knew he had one living; and actually contrived to introduce him to a young lady of property; to whom he would probably have been married, but that one of them, struck with remorse of conscience, developed the affair to her father, and frustrated the whole scheme; and soon afterwards Carr's companions quitted him, having reduced him to the last shilling.

Having been intrusted by a gentleman with a draft on the Bank for sixty pounds, he received the money which he spent in the lowest scenes of debauchery, and and again entered as a marine.

There being something in his deportment superior to the vulgar, he was advanced to the rank of sergeant, in which he behaved so well, that his officers treated him with singular regard.

The vessel in which he sailed taking a merchant-ship richly laden, and soon afterwards several smaller vessels, the prize-money amounted to a considerable sum; which gave Carr an idea that very great advantages might be obtained by privateering. Hereupon he procured a discharge; and entering on board a privateer, was made master at arms.

In a few days the privateer took two French ships, one of which they carried to Bristol, and the other into the harbour of Poole. Having refitted their ship, they sailed again; and in two days took a French privateer, and gave chase to three others, which they found to be English vessels belonging to Falmouth, that had been made prize of by a French privateer. These they retook, and carried them into Falmouth: in their passage to which place

place they made prize of a valuable French ship, the amount of which contributed to enrich the crew.

On their next trip they saw a ship in full chase of them; on which they prepared for a vigorous defence, and indeed it was necessary, for the vessels fought above forty minutes yard-arm and yard-arm. Many hands were lost by the French, who at length attempted to sheer off, but were taken after a chase of some leagues.

The commander of the English privateer being desperately wounded in the engagement, died in a few days; on which Carr courted his widow, and a marriage would have taken place, but that she was seized with a violent fever, which deprived her of life; not, however, before she had bequeathed him all she was possessed of.

Having disposed of her effects, he repaired to London, where he commenced smuggler: but his ill-gotten effects being seized on by the officers of the revenue, he took to the more dangerous practice of forging seamen's wills, and gained money for some time; but being apprehended, he was brought to trial at the Old Bailey, convicted, and sentenced to die.

He was of the Romish persuasion, and died with decent resignation to his fate.

WILLIAM RILEY,

(A young Soldier of the Guards.)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, 1750, FOR MURDER.

FROM the slight mention made of this man's crime, for his case has not yet been regularly reported, we cannot immediately see where lay the malice afore-thought, in the commission of this murder:

In the list of criminals executed in this year, (1750) we find the conviction of John Thrift, the common hangman; or, as he is vulgarly called, Jack Ketch, * being the second officer of that description convicted of murder, since

* The case of John Price, (See Vol. i. page 152.) gives the singular life,

since the epoch from which we date our Calendar ; was sentenced to transportation, and then pardoned, but the soldier was hanged. Well may a German author assert, that there are more executions in England in one year, than in Holland during twenty years. This we can readily credit, and are farther sure, that in no nation upon earth, of equal population, are so many put to death (except in cases of high-treason) as England.

William Riley served the greater part of his apprenticeship to a watch-maker at Liverpool, but his master dying, he turned his mind to the sea, and sailed one voyage, which it appears was sufficient to induce him to quit the watery element, for the service of the land ; and to this end, he enlisted into the second regiment of foot-guards.

From the circumstance which led to the fatal crime for which this youth suffered, we find that walking matches were then, as they have lately been, in great vogue. Considerable bets were depending on a man walking three hundred miles in six days ; a feat little inferior to Capt. Barclay's thousand miles in as many successive hours. This wager was determined in Tothill-fields, Westminster, in favour of the pedestrian.

Riley, also a great walker, was so much interested in the man's success, that he undertook to clear the way ; but on the last day, the crowd became so great, that he, in his anxiety, struck several who did not fall back, and among the rest, one Sutton, who returned the blow, whereupon a scuffle ensued, and Riley being thrown down by the mob, drew his sword and stabbed him, of which wound he died ; and Riley was found guilty of wilful murder.

After sentence of death he was very penitent, and expressed his deep contrition, for taking away the life of a fellow-creature.

life, and remarkable execution of Jack Ketch, whose infamy the poet has recorded in the following *Jeu d' Esprit* :

“ Though Jack's misdeed is punish'd right,

“ It never was intended

“ That he should leave his office quite,

“ He only is suspended.”

He

He confessed that he had done one more bad deed, which lay heavy on his mind. He said, that one of his comrades living on bad terms with his wife, and being jealous of him without a cause, he offered to take her, if the other would give her up. Accordingly they all went to the Fleet; the comrade threw the certificate of marriage into the fire, and Riley and the woman were immediately married; and this, he feared was wicked in the eyes of God, of which, however, he sincerely repented.

He was executed along with George Robins, George Anderson, and Thomas Reynolds, when only nineteen years of age!

Remarkable Compunction, Death, and Burial of the Common Hangman, vulgarly called JACK KETCH, who beheaded King Charles the First.

IN various instances, it will be observed, that as we handle ancient records, and turn over musty leaves of books, which treat of the final sentence of the law, we seize upon each scrap which can possibly interest our readers. Though the present case goes beyond the time in which we first date our chronology, yet so remarkable a historical anecdote, cannot, we think, be deemed an intrusion.

When King Charles I. was doomed to death by the mock tribunal, and self-created judges, the tools of the usurper, Oliver Cromwell, a man named Richard Brandon was the common executioner in London; and, as it were, to heap additional degradation on the head of the royal martyr, he was ordered to perform the bloody work.

Brandon survived the death of the king but a very short time, having, as it was said, been seized with such severe compunction for being the instrument of the fatal deed, that he could never after look up and smile in the face of heaven. He died on Wednesday the 20th of June, 1649, being within five months of the day of the martyrdom.

“The Sunday before Brandon’s death,” said the old accounts, “a young man of his acquaintance being to visit

visit him, asked him how he did, and if he was not troubled in conscience, for cutting off the King's head. Brandon replied, yes, because he was at the King's trial, and heard the sentence denounced against him ; which caused the said Brandon to make this solemn vow or protestation, *viz.* " Wishing God to perish his body and soul, if he ever appeared on the scaffold to do the act, or lift up his hand against him." And he further declared, that " he was no sooner on the scaffold (to do that wicked act) but he immediately felt a trembling, and ever since, to his death, continued in the like agony."

" He likewise confessed, that he had thirty pounds for his pains,* and all paid him in half crowns, within an hour after the fatal blow was struck, and that he took an orange stuck full of cloves, and a handkerchief, out of the King's coat-pocket. As soon as he had descended from the scaffold, he was proffered twenty shillings for that orange, by a gentleman in Whitehall, but he refused the same, and afterwards sold it for ten shillings in Rosemary-lane.

" About six o'clock that evening, he returned to his wife, living in Rosemary-lane, and gave her the money, saying, it was the dearest money he ever earned in his life, which prophetic words were soon made manifest. About three days before his death, he lay speechless, uttering many a sigh and heavy groan, and in a most deplorable manner departed his bed of sorrow.

" For his burial, great store of wine was sent by the sheriffs of the city of London, and a great multitude of people stood waiting, to see his corpse carried to the church-yard ; some crying out, ' hang him, the rogue, bury him in a dung-hill ;' others pressed upon the coffin, saying, ' they would quarter him, for executing the King ;' insomuch that the church-wardens and overseers were fain to come for the suppressing them, and with great difficulty he was at last carried to Whitechapel church-yard, having a bunch of rosemary at the end of the coffin, and

* According to the present difference of the value of money, this was an enormous fee, and may be calculated not much short of one hundred pounds ; and this shews the difficulty which the regicides found to get a man to do so foul a deed.

on the top thereof, a rope, tied across, from one end to the other.

“The man who waited on this executioner, when he gave the fatal blow to the King, was a rag-man in Rosemary-lane.”

THOMAS REYNOLDS,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, FOR ENLISTING SOLDIERS FOR THE SERVICE
OF THE KING OF FRANCE.

THIS traitor was a Roman Catholic, born and educated in Ireland. He was an excellent scholar, being master of the Latin and French languages. When a young man, he went over to France, where he enlisted as a Hussar, wearing false whiskers, his beard not yet being grown. On the rebel expedition being fitted out there to invade Scotland, he served an officer, in the capacity of valet, and who was killed at the battle of Culloden. After this he was taken at Carlisle, and from speaking French so very fluently, he was exchanged as a Frenchman.

Being a man of genteel address, he ingratiated himself so far into the good opinion of a rich widow, near Carlisle, as to persuade her to marry him.

He soon left the widow, taking away from her all he could lay his hands upon and returned to France, where he got an appointment in the retinue of the ambassador from that country to the court of St. James's.

Having now some money, he determined on taking a public-house, his master having attended King George II. on his then visit to Hanover, and left him behind. He then sent for his wife, to attend the bar, while he put in effect a plan which he long had in contemplation, of seducing our soldiers, and enlisting them for the service of France; and in this treasonable practice he was too long successful. His public-house was in St. Giles's, and frequented by lewd women, and men of abandoned morals.

Regarding the once splendid widow, in her present employ of waiting upon such vagabonds ;

“ O what a falling off was there !”

Several soldiers of the guards frequented Reynolds's house, and having already sent off some to France, he began to practise his deceit upon one Carnes, a private soldier in the foot-guards. He persuaded him to take money for this service, and shewed him fourteen or fifteen suits of regimentals, belonging to soldiers whom he had already sent to France. He desired him to cut off his hair, wear a smock frock, and to avoid the large towns, or pass through in the night, on his road to Dover. As a guard over him, he sent one of the prostitutes, many of whom he had at his command, who was to see him shipped, and give him money. Thus he meant to evade the proof of his having enlisted him.

Arrived at Dover, Carnes went to the castle, and disclosed the treason to the Fort Major. The woman, finding this, fled back to London.

The insinuations which Reynolds used, to tempt the soldiers from their loyalty, was to represent the severe punishments in the English army, and the lenity of that of the French—that he had power to enlist for Lord Ogilvie's regiment, one of the finest in the French army ; where they would be treated like gentlemen. He gave them abundance of spirituous liquors and sent prostitutes to keep them company, until he found an opportunity of shipping them. He also, contrived, at different times, to send to France English arms and ammunition, which were supposed to be for the purpose of another invasion and rebellion in Scotland.

The Fort Major detained Carnes, and sent information to the War Office. Reynolds, before he could be apprized of this, was seized, his house searched, and different regimental clothing found concealed. He was convicted of the treason, on the clearest evidence, and sentenced to be hanged.

He protested his innocence to the very last moment of his

his life ; and declared that he went to be hanged with as much satisfaction as though *again* going to be married.

GEORGE ANDERSON, alias JOHN EVERETT,

(A Pick-pocket within the very walls of Newgate.)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DEC. 31, 1750, FOR STEALING RIBBONS.

WE have already detailed the life, crimes, and execution of one malefactor of this name (see vol. i. page 383) but we are not informed whether they bore any farther affinity to each other than being both votaries to the same wicked demon ; nearly allied at all events in villany.

The John Everett before us, is stated to have been bred upon the same soil as the highwayman of older times ; both Hertfordshire men ; a circumstance that may cause a belief also of family connexion.

This man was a native of Hertford ; in which town he served his apprenticeship to a baker. The young men in the neighbourhood declined associating with him, and held him in universal abhorrence, so ungracious were his manners, and so strong was his propensity to wickedness.

Upon the expiration of his apprenticeship, he connected himself with a gang of notorious gamblers, and other dissolute wretches ; in conjunction with whom he perpetrated a great number of villanies, but for several years escaped the vengeance of the law.

By persuasions and the promise of a sum of money, Everett, and a man named Wright, induced a young woman to exhibit a charge of felony against two innocent men, who were put on their trial, but happily acquitted, as the perjured evidence was not able to authenticate her accusation. In revenge for their failing to supply the girl with the money they had promised, she lodged an information against Everett and Wright, who were in consequence indicted for subornation of perjury, and sentenced

to stand on the pillory at the end of Chancery-lane, where they received very severe treatment from the populace.

Soon after the above punishment had been inflicted, Everett was tried at Hicks's Hall, and sentenced again to stand on the pillory, for having fraudulently obtained a thirty-six-shilling piece. He was afterwards convicted of having circulated counterfeit Portugal coin, and ordered to be imprisoned for two years in Newgate.

Soon after Everett's trial, a company of gentlemen went to Newgate to visit a criminal, and in a short time they discovered they had been robbed of their handkerchiefs. This circumstance being mentioned to Everett, he pretended to be much surprised, and intimated that there was but little probability of the property being recovered. However, in a little time he produced the handkerchiefs, and received some money from the gentlemen, as a reward for his supposed honesty.

While he remained in Newgate, he picked the pocket of almost every person who came to visit the prisoners: he was continually uttering the most reprobate speeches, and seemed to delight in the practice of every species, of wickedness. Upon the expiration of the time he was sentenced to remain in prison, he found sureties for good behaviour for two years, and was discharged.

Having stopped a young gentleman in Fleet-street, he was asked if a robbery was intended; upon which he knocked the gentleman down, but a large dog belonging to the injured party immediately seized the villain, who with great difficulty disengaged himself just time enough to escape being secured by the watch.

Everett, and a woman of the town, went to a small inn at Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, which was kept by an ancient widow, and being invited into a room behind the bar, after having each drank a glass of wine, the widow and her female guest went to walk in the garden: in the mean time Everett broke open a bureau, and stole sixty pounds in cash, and several gold rings. They kept the widow in conversation till the time of going to bed, in order to divert her from going to the bureau, and the next morning decamped with their booty.

They took the road to Nottingham, whence they crossed the

the country to Newmarket, and then returned to London. Everett's numerous villanies had rendered his name so notorious, that he was fearful of being apprehended; and therefore he went under the denomination of George Anderson, and lived in a very private manner till the money he had so wickedly obtained was expended.

He now procured a knife eighteen inches long, and determined to levy contributions on passengers on the highway. In the road between Kentish-town and Hampstead, he attempted to rob a countryman, who being of an intrepid temper, a desperate contest ensued, in which Everett proved the conqueror, and dangerously wounded his antagonist, from whom he, however, obtained but a small booty.

At length he was detected stealing a quantity of ribbons in a shop in London, and was apprehended, but not without making a vigorous resistance! in doing which he dangerously wounded the shopkeeper in the face and hands with a knife.

For this crime he was tried at the Old Bailey, convicted, and received sentence of death. The night after the warrant for his execution arrived, he laid a plan to escape. He was furnished with implements for this purpose, and for sawing off his fetters, by his wife and kept mistress, who, on this occasion, agreed. Being discovered, the former was sent to one of the Compters, and his concubine to the other. On this he behaved so insolently and outrageously, that it was necessary to chain him to the floor of his cell, where he remained blaspheming and threatening vengeance to the keeper and turnkeys, until he was brought out for execution.

A report being circulated that he meditated a design against the life of the gaoler, his cell was carefully searched, but no suspicious instruments were found.

Whether he really harboured the design of murdering the keeper, is a matter of doubt. He denounced vengeance against the man who gave the information, declaring with horrid imprecations, that if he could procure a pistol, or any other offensive weapon, he would put him to death.

He joined in prayer with the ordinary of Newgate at the place

place of execution, but declined addressing the populace, and a little time before being turned off, said he considered death as too severe a punishment for the crime he had committed.

“ Think what a sea of deep perdition whelms
 “ The wretch’s trembling soul, who launches forth,
 “ Unlicens’d to Eternity. Think, think,
 “ And let the thought restrain thy impious tongue.”

MASON.

WILLIAM BAKER,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DECEMBER 31, 1751, FOR FORGING AN EAST INDIA WARRANT.

THIS unfortunate man was born in Cannon-street where his father kept a baker’s shop, and lived in good reputation. The youth was educated at Merchant Taylor’s School, and at the usual age bound apprentice to a grocer in a considerable way of business ; and he proved so faithful and diligent a servant, that soon after the time of his apprenticeship had expired, his master admitted him an equal partner in his trade.

Having carried on the grocery trade for about seven years ; he declined that business, and connected himself in partnership with Mr. Carter, a sugar-baker, and by this new undertaking he flattered himself in the expectation of speedily acquiring a fortune.

About the period of his commencing sugar-baker he married one of his cousins, who was the daughter of a clergyman in Northamptonshire, and with her he received a handsome fortune.

For several years he fulfilled all his engagements with the greatest punctuality, and was supposed to be possessed of considerable property.

He attended the sales of the East India Company’s goods, and frequently purchased very large quantities of teas, and he had extensive dealings in other articles. He often sustained considerable loss by the sale of his goods ; and his circumstances, at length, became so embarrassed, that

that he was under apprehension of a commission of bankruptcy being issued against him.

He flattered himself, however, that, if he could support his credit for a short time, matters would take a more favourable turn, and his circumstances be retrieved. His anxiety to avoid a bankruptcy, induced him to forge an East India warrant for goods to the amount of nine hundred and twenty-two pounds. But it must be remarked, that the forgery was not committed with any intention to defraud, but merely to raise a supply for present exigencies.

Mr. Baker passed the counterfeit warrant into the hands of Mr. Holland who sent it to the India-House, where the forgery was detected, and Baker was in consequence apprehended.

Being put on his trial at the Old Bailey, several gentlemen of reputation appeared in his behalf, and spoke to his character in the most favourable terms: but both the forgery and the uttering the counterfeit warrant having been proved against him by indisputable testimony, and strongly corroborating circumstances, he of course was condemned to suffer death.

Mr. Baker's behaviour, while under sentence of death, was perfectly consistent with his unfortunate situation. Being conveyed to Tyburn in a mourning coach, he appeared to be in a composed state of mind, and entirely resigned to his fate; and after employing some time in fervent prayer, and singing psalms, he suffered the dreadful sentence of the law.

“ So angels sing, and so sing we;
“ To God on high all glory be:
“ Let him on earth his peace bestow,
“ And unto men his favours shew.”

*JOHN CATHER, PATRICK KANE, AND
DANIEL ALEXANDER,*

(Extortioners.)

FILLORIED, IMPRISONED, AND KEPT TO HARD LABOUR.

THERE are a set of villains constantly prowling for plunder in the metropolis and its environs, who extort money from men of property, under threats of accusing them with some heinous or abominable crime.

Oftentimes the gentleman thus singled out by these conspirators, though innocent, dreading even the breath of suspicion against his character, is terrified into consent to give them money ; and when once the devoted victim has thus yielded to their design, there is no end to the extortions, from time to time made upon him ; his whole fortune would not satisfy the rapacity of such rascals.

In the present case, the Hon. Edward Walpole became the mark of these extortioners. It appeared in evidence, on the trial of these men, that Mr. Walpole had been Secretary to the Duke of Devonshire, while his Grace was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and on his return to London, being in want of a confidential servant, wrote to his friend Lord Boyle, to procure him one, who some time after sent to England, John Cather, the culprit above-named, who was the son of one of his Lordship's Irish tenants ; but Mr. Walpole having in the mean time hired an English servant, with whom he was well satisfied, he declined taking him ; but told him to remain in his house until a place could be found for him.

Thus was Cather, when he committed the basest act of ingratitude, maintained like a gentleman, Mr. Walpole having, from time to time, even supplied him with pocket-money.

One day he was observed by one of Mr. Walpole's servants, in new gay clothes, which he put on and off with much privacy, and slipt in and out of the house, in a way that shewed he did not wish to be seen in his new dress. This soon came to the knowledge of the master, who, confident that he could not honestly come by the means
of

of procuring such articles, suspected he had been plundered, and forbid him his house.

From this moment the ingrate meditated revenge, and when the mind is prone to vice, we soon find an opportunity of putting it into practice. Cather, during the time he enjoyed Mr. Walpole's bounty, having no employ, formed acquaintance with bad characters, among which were a gang of his own countrymen, who supported their excesses by extorting money, one of whom, besides those now convicted, was William Smith, who was hanged the 3d of October then last past.

These villains laid their snare for Mr. Walpole, but they were therein caught themselves. He resisted their attempts, and caused them to be apprehended.

On the 5th of July, John Cather, Patrick Cane, Daniel Alexander, and ——— Dixon, were brought up to the King's Bench, charged with a conspiracy in swearing a disgraceful crime against the Hon. Edward Walpole. The trial lasted several hours, (for such a gang of artful villains scruple not to swear whatever may forward their villany, or to suborn others so to do) when they were found Guilty, and received the following sentence:

John Cather, to stand three times in and upon the pillory; the first time at Charing-cross; the second in Fleet-street; and the third in Cornhill; to be kept to hard labour in Clerkenwell bridewell, for the term of four years; then to give security, himself in 40*l.* and two sureties in 20*l.* each, for his good behaviour for four years more.

Patrick Kane to stand once upon the pillory, and to be kept to hard labour in Clerkenwell bridewell two years; then to give the like security for five years more.

Daniel Alexander—This man,

“ Name it not in Gath—

“ Proclaim it not in the streets of Ascalon.”

was an attorney at law, and solicitor to the conspirators !!!

The attorney, abundantly the greatest villain of the gang, was sentenced to stand once upon the pillory, to be imprisoned three years in the King's Bench prison, to give security for good behaviour for three years more, himself in 200*l.* and two sureties in 100*l.* each: and to be struck off the roll of attornies.

Dixon ran away from his merited fate.

The law which confiscates a man's estate for stealing a penny, and hangs him for thieving to the amount of a shilling,* has hardly provided an adequate punishment for extortioners, conspirators, swindlers, perjurers, gamblers, and rogues of those descriptions.

To some men, and surely all such men must be lost to shame, the pillory would be no punishment. To stand with the head and hands fastened to a block of wood, for an hour, and where no pain arises from the punishment, would hold no terror to evil doers, were not the honest populace, indignant at the law's not hanging such diabolical villains, in some measure to make good the defect. This was amply done on the present occasion; they were most severely pelted and hooted.

These exemplary punishments were exhibited in the latter end of the year 1751.

Dixon, another of this gang of extortioners, for a while eluded the search made after him; but being at length taken, he was brought to trial, and on the 4th of May, 1752, sentenced by the Court of King's Bench to be imprisoned two years, to find sureties for his good behaviour, and to stand once upon the pillory at Charing-cross, where the mob treated him with no less severity than they had already done to his quondam friends in villany.

NORMAN ROSS,

(*A Footman,*)

EXECUTED AT EDINBURGH, JANUARY 8, 1751, FOR MURDERING HIS MISTRESS.

ABOUT the time when this man met his most deserved punishment, the public journals teemed with accounts of the impudence and crimes of the party-coloured tribe

* See the trial of William Dellicott, where we have adduced an instance of this punishment being rigidly carried into effect.

of servants, denominated footmen. To such a daring pitch had they arrived, as to commit a riot at the Royal Theatre in Drury-lane, even in the presence of the heir-apparent to the throne. One evening when the Prince and Princess of Wales, the father and mother of King George III. attended the performance, these miscreants commenced a dreadful uproar. It was then the custom to admit fellows in livery into the upper gallery gratis, in compliment to their employers, on whom they were supposed to be in attendance. Not content with peaceably witnessing the performance, they grew to such a pitch of impudence, as to interrupt those who paid for admission, assumed the prerogative of critics, and hissed or applauded with the most offensive clamour. In consequence of these violent proceedings, the manager shut the door against them, unless they each paid their shilling.

One night, when that part of the royal family already mentioned were present, they mustered in a gang to the number of three hundred, broke open the doors of the theatre, and fought their way to the very door of the stage, in doing which they wounded twenty-five peaceable people. Colonel de Veil, then an active magistrate for Westminster, happened to be present, and in vain attempted to read a proclamation against such an outrage, but though they obstructed him in his duty, he caused the ring-leaders to be secured, and the next day committed three of them to Newgate.

At the next sessions they were convicted of the riot, and sentenced to imprisonment.

In the mean time, the choler of these upstarts was raised to such a pitch, that they sent the following threat to the manager :

“ To Mr. Fleetwood, in Lincoln’s-Inn Fields, Master of the Theatre, Drury-lane.

“ Sir,

“ We are willing to admonish you, before we attempt
our

our design: and provide you use us civil, and admit us into *our* gallery, which is *our* property, according to formalities; and if you think proper to come to a composition this way, you'll hear no further; and if not, our intention is, to combine in a body, *incognito*, and reduce the play-house to the ground: valuing no detection—we are indemnified!"

The manager carried this letter to the Lord Chamberlain, who ordered a detachment of fifty soldiers to do duty there each night, and thus deterred the saucy knaves from carrying their threats into execution. In the present day a footman who is obliged to pay for being admitted, is frequently the most noisy fellow of the whole audience.

At the Edinburgh theatre it was also the custom to admit livery servants into the gallery *gratis*.

When Garrick's inimitable farce called "High Life below Stairs," wherein the waste and impudence of domestic servants of rich men is completely exposed, was performed there, a most violent clamour broke out in the gallery, so as entirely to interrupt the performance, and put the other part of the audience in fear of the consequences. The hardy Scotchmen, however, laid hold of the rioters, and kicked every footman, who alone were concerned, out of the house, where, without paying, they never more entered.

Some short time after this abridgment of their misused pleasures, gentlemen determined to abolish the disgraceful imposition on their guests, in giving money to their already over-pampered servants, which they looked for as an equal matter of right to their free admission to the theatres, and which they called *VALES*; a word now happily exploded by modern lexicographers. This second infringement, as they called it, on their just prerogative, aroused them to more daring outrages of the law.

Sir George Saville, who took a leading part in this laudable domestic reformation, for its longer endurance would have only tended to make them more impudent, had incendiary letters sent him, threatening his person, and to set fire to his noble mansion, unless he again permitted his

his servants to take vales.* In fact, the saucy knaves, tagged to the thronged retinues of our men of overgrown fortunes, even to this day, levy contributions on their master's tradesmen, and on such unfortunate people as they conceive approach the hall door, to sue for favour; aye, reader, 'tis very true; and should you wish to see a lord, you must, even as you get admission to a lion, pay his serving man. Without this introductory business being settled, even in this day of attempted reform, they will neither take up your letter, nor announce you, should you not be in the habit of ingress and regress through the lofty hall or massy gates they guard, to the gorgeous presence of their master. Without a fee, they will, with supercilious and contemptuous looks, view you from head to foot, demand your business, then equivocate, and cast an eye at your pocket, which, if you do not open, you will stand but a poor chance of conveying your business to the ear of their master.

Sir Robert Walpole, the minister of King George II. when pushed for a majority in the House of Commons, would say, "Every man has his price;" and truly said Sir Robert: for we find that all the followers of wealth and power must be paid—all must have their bribe.

* About this time the Right Hon. Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart. also received a threatening letter from the same quarter, a copy of which, in order, as well to show the ignorance, as the daring effrontery of footmen, we subjoin:

"Sir Frans Dashwood I have taken this hoper tunete to a Quent You That if You do go hon as You do You satenly lose Your Life and that Black that Lord Nerthampton and some more that I have not mentioned for when that You go to dine You go hout and neare leaves won farthen nor woot let your Sarvants tak One farthen for if You dont leave of You sarten shall have a Dose of Leden Pills and tha hare vere hard to digest for if Sarvants has but Nine Pounds tha cannot Ceepa Wife and Famele For Yeu must bild Work Howses and Cep Them but You will not live to se them bilt for I wod have Yout be all wase prepared for Deth for You do se that theare is nothing but robin upon the hi Way and that is o cai-sened by no thing Else but by starven the Poore Sarvants and so You must concider a bout This a fare for Dam You You-shall suffer and hall such Blacks and more such Blacks as Youer self and so I ham

"Youer and be dam'd."

His Majesty's pardon was offered to any (except the person who sent it) that would discover those concerned; and Sir Francis Dashwood offered one hundred pounds for the like discovery, but the writer escaped.

Even

Even their masters might have failed in abolishing these vales, which were exacted at every meal they partook of with a friend,* had not government by a proclamation, offered a reward for apprehending the author of the letter to Sir George Saville, so that he might be brought to conviction.

The treacherous servant Ross was descended from reputable parents at Inverness, in the north of Scotland, who gave him a good education, and intended that he should be brought up in a merchant's counting-house; but before he had completed his fifteenth year, his father and mother died, leaving Norman and several other children wholly unprovided for.

Norman made application for employment to several merchants; but though he was well qualified for business, his proposals were rejected because he could not raise the sum usually given upon entering into a merchant's service as an articulated clerk.

Thus situated, he engaged himself as a footman to a widow lady of fortune, who on account of having been acquainted with his parent, behaved to him with singular kindness. The lady had a son, who was then a military officer in Flanders; and the campaign there being concluded, the young gentleman returned to his native country, to visit his mother, and transact some business particularly relating to himself.

Observing Ross to possess many qualifications not usual to persons in his situation, he proposed taking him abroad in the capacity of valet-de-chambre; and the old lady acquiesced in her son's desire.

Ross continued in the officer's service for the space of about five years; during which period he behaved with the utmost diligence and fidelity. The regiment being disbanded on the conclusion of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, the officer set out on the tour of France and Italy, and Ross returned to Scotland for the benefit of his native air.

* The facetious Dean Swift on leaving the table of a nobleman, said, "Pray, my lord, shall I pay *here* for my dinner, or shall I give the price of it at the *door* as I pass your hungry footmen?"

Soon

Soon after his return he recovered his health, and set out to pay his respects to his former mistress; but learning that she had been dead about three weeks, he repaired to Edinburgh, where he was hired as a footman by an attorney at law. Having contracted an intimacy with a number of livery servants, he was seduced by their example to the practices of swearing, gaming, drinking, and other vices; and he was dismissed from his service on account of his impudence and the irregularity of his conduct.

Ross now became footman to Mrs. Hume, a widow lady of great fortune and remarkable piety.

In the winter she resided at Edinburgh, and in the summer at a village called Ayton, about four miles from the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed. About four months after he had been hired by Mrs. Hume, the lady removed to her house at Ayton; and some time after, a female servant in the family with whom he had maintained a criminal intercourse, was brought to bed, and it became necessary for him to supply her with money for the support of herself and the infant.

He continued to provide her with the means of subsistence, from the month of April till August, by borrowing money of his fellow-servants and other persons with whom he was acquainted.

The woman at length becoming exceedingly importunate, and his resources being wholly exhausted, he was driven nearly to a state of distraction, and in that disposition of mind formed the fatal resolution of robbing his mistress.

Mrs. Hume slept on the first floor, in an apartment behind the dining-room, and being unapprehensive of danger, her bed-chamber door was seldom locked. With this circumstance Ross was well acquainted, as well as that she usually put the keys of her bureau (and the other places where her valuable effects were deposited) under her pillow.

He determined to carry his execrable design into execution on a Sunday night; and waiting in his bed-room, without undressing himself, till he judged the family to be asleep, he descended, and leaving his shoes in the passage,

passage, proceeded to his lady's bed-chamber. Endeavouring to get possession of the keys, the lady was disturbed, and being dreadfully alarmed, called for assistance: but the rest of the family lying at a distant part of the house, her screams were not heard. Ross immediately seized a clasp-knife that lay on the table, and cut his mistress's throat in a most dreadful manner. This horrid act was no sooner perpetrated, than, without waiting to put on his shoes, or to secure either money or effects, he leaped out of the window, and after travelling several miles, concealed himself in a field of corn.

In the morning, the gardener discovered a livery hat, which the murderer had dropped in descending from the window, and suspecting that something extraordinary had happened, he alarmed his fellow-servants.

The disturbance in the house brought the two daughters of Mrs. Hume down stairs: but no words can express the horror and consternation of the young ladies, upon beholding their indulgent parent weltering in her blood, and the fatal instrument of death lying on the floor.

Ross being absent, and his shoes and hat being found, it was concluded that he must have committed the barbarous deed; the butler therefore mounted a horse, and alarmed the country, lest the murderous villain should escape. The butler was soon joined by great numbers of horsemen, and on the conclusion of the day, when both men and horses were nearly exhausted through excessive fatigue, the murderer was discovered in a field of standing corn. His hands being tied behind him, he was taken to an adjacent public-house, and on the following morning he was conducted before a magistrate of Edinburgh, who committed him to prison.

On the trial of this offender, he had the effrontery to declare, that his mistress usually admitted him to her bed, and that it was his constant practice to leave his shoes at the dining-room door. He said, that upon entering the chamber, he perceived the lady murdered, and leaped through the window, in order to discover who had perpetrated the barbarous deed; adding, that having lost his hat, he did not choose to return till evening, and therefore
concealed

concealed himself among the corn. He was severely reprimanded by the court, for aggravating his guilt by aspersing the character of a woman of remarkable virtue and piety, whom he had cruelly deprived of life.

The law of Scotland bears an affinity to that of the Romans. It invests the judges with power to punish criminals in such manner as they may deem to be proportioned to their offences. This privilege was exercised in the case of Ross, whose crime having been attended with many aggravating circumstances, he was sentenced to have his right hand chopped off, then to be hanged till dead, the body to be hung in chains, and the right hand to be affixed at the top of the gibbet, with the knife made use of in the commission of the murder.

Upon receiving sentence of death, he began seriously to reflect on his miserable situation, and the next day requested the attendance of Mr. James Craig, one of the ministers of Edinburgh, to whom he confessed his guilt; declaring that there was no foundation for his reflections against the chastity of the deceased.

Six weeks elapsed between the time of his trial and that of his execution, during which he was visited once every day by Mr. Craig. He shewed every sign of the most sincere penitence; and refused to accompany two prisoners who broke out of gaol, saying he had no desire to recover his liberty, but on the contrary would cheerfully submit to the utmost severity of punishment, that he might make some atonement for his wickedness.

The day appointed for putting the sentence of the law into force being arrived, Ross walked to the place of execution, holding Mr. Craig by the arm. Having addressed a pathetic speech to the populace, and prayed some time with great fervency of devotion, the rope was put round his neck, and the other end of it being thrown over the gallows, it was taken hold of by four chimney-sweepers*. The criminal now laid his right-hand upon a block, and it was struck off by the executioner at two blows; immediately after which the chimney-sweepers, by

* The chimney-sweepers of Edinburgh are obliged to assist the executioner whenever they are required.

pulling the rope, raised him from the ground ; when he felt the rope drawing tight, by a convulsive motion, he struck the bloody wrist against his cheek, which gave him an appearance too ghastly to admit of description. The body was placed in chains, and hung upon a gibbet, the hand being placed over the head with the knife stuck through it.

RICHARD BUTLER,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, FEBRUARY 10, 1751, FOR FORGERY.

How great the disappointment, and how melancholy the reflection, when men who have passed the probation of truth with credit, sink into idleness and gaming, from thence to thieving, and ending a life well begun, at the gallows !

Of this description of miserable beings was Richard Butler. He was born at Turlus, in the county of Tipperary, Ireland. His father was a reputable farmer, who bound him apprentice to a baker, in Waterford. He proved so faithful and diligent a servant, that he was held in universal esteem ; and, upon the expiration of his apprenticeship, his father gave him a hundred pounds, for the purpose of establishing him in business.

The above sum enabled him to open a shop in Waterford, where he had a favourable prospect of success : but, instead of attending to his business, he frequented horse-races, cock-fighting, and other gaming meetings, and engaged in a variety of expenses greatly beyond what his income could afford ; the consequence of which was, that in about six months his affairs were in a most embarrassed situation.

Being unable to continue his business, he returned to Turlus, where he formed a great number of infamous stratagems for extorting money from his relations ; and they threatened, that unless he quitted that part of the country, they would cause him to be apprehended, and proceed against him with the utmost rigour of the law.

Butler applied to a clergyman at Turlus, representing his

his case in a plausible manner, and supplicating that he would use his interest with his father to prevail upon him to grant twenty pounds in addition to his former favours. The worthy divine pleaded in behalf of the young man, and with the desired success. Upon delivering the money, the reverend gentleman exhorted him to apply it to a proper use ; which he promised to do, adding that he would immediately depart for Cork, and not return to the place of his nativity till, by an unremitting perseverance in a system of integrity, he had made atonement for all the errors of his past conduct.

On his arrival at Cork, he procured employment as a journeyman ; and in that capacity he was so industrious and strictly economical, that in a short time he made such addition to his stock, that he was able to open a shop on his own account. He was much encouraged, and his circumstances were supposed to be more flourishing than they were in reality.

Coming into possession of a handsome sum of money, by marrying the widow of a custom-house officer, who lived in the neighbourhood, Butler took a tavern of considerable business, where his circumstances would have been much improved, but for his connexions with maritime people, to whom he gave unlimited credit, and was under the necessity of taking smuggled goods in payment or losing his money.

An information being lodged against him for having smuggled goods in his possession, his effects were seized for the use of the crown, and he was under the necessity of quitting Ireland.

Butler and his wife took shipping for Plymouth, and in that town they hired a house, which they let in lodgings to seafaring people. In about three years he was obliged to quit Plymouth, and repaired to the metropolis in a very distressed condition.

He had not been long in London, before the grief consequent on the various scenes of distress she had passed through, produced the death of his wife.

Butler being now in very distressed circumstances, he communicated his case to some of his countrymen ; and

he yielded to their persuasions for acquiring a livelihood by forging seamen's wills.

Butler, Horne, and a woman named Catherine Gannon, went to the Navy-office to inquire what wages were due to Thomas Williamson, a foremast man belonging to the *Namur*, and learnt that the sum was about eight and thirty pounds. They then made application to a proctor, the woman producing a forged will, and declaring herself to be the widow of Williamson. They were desired to call the next day, when a probate would be granted.

Butler and his female accomplice attended according to the appointment; but the proctor having, in the mean time, searched the offices, found that the will in question was opposed by four caveats; and having further reason to suspect an intended fraud, he caused them to be apprehended. Being taken before the lord-mayor, Gannon acknowledged that she had received a few shillings from Butler and Horne, who had promised to make the sum up five pounds, on condition of her swearing herself to be the widow of Thomas Williamson. Butler was committed to Newgate; and Gannon and Horne were admitted evidences for the crown.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, Butler was tried, and sentenced to die. While under sentence of death he regularly attended prayers in the chapel, and employed a great part of his time in private devotions, agreeably to the doctrines of the protestant faith. At the place of execution he prayed with great fervency of zeal, acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and, after addressing the populace, was turned off.

WILLIAM PARSONS, Esq.

(Eldest Son and Heir to Sir William Parsons, Bart. of the County of Nottingham,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, FEBRUARY 11, 1751, FOR RETURNING FROM
TRANSPORTATION.

THE mind of sensibility must feel for the situation of the relatives of the meanest malefactor; but when, as in the
present

present case, we find an old and honourable family involved in disgrace from the vices of the heir, we are shocked at such degeneracy.

The unhappy subject of this narrative was born in London, in the year 1717. He was placed under the care of a pious and learned divine at Pepper-harrow, in Surry, where he received the first rudiments of education. In a little more than three years he was removed to Eton College, where it was intended that he should qualify himself for one of the universities.

While he was a scholar at Eton, he was detected in stealing a volume of Pope's Homer, in the shop of a bookseller named Pote. Being charged with the fact, he confessed that he had stolen many other books at different times. This case being represented to the master, Parsons underwent a very severe discipline.

Though he remained at Eton nine years, his progress in learning was very inconsiderable. The youth was of so unpromising a disposition, that Sir William determined to send him to sea, as the most probable means to prevent his destruction, and soon procured him to be appointed midshipman on board a man of war, then lying at Spithead, under sailing orders for Jamaica, there to be stationed for three years.

Some accident detaining the ship beyond the time when it was expected she would sail, Parsons applied for leave of absence, and went on shore: but having no intention to return, he immediately directed his course towards a small town about ten miles from Portsmouth, called Bishop's Waltham, where he soon ingratiated himself into the favour of the principal inhabitants.

His figure being pleasing, and his manner of address easy and polite, he found but little difficulty in recommending himself to the ladies.

He became greatly enamoured of a beautiful and accomplished young lady, the daughter of a physician of considerable practice, and prevailed upon her to promise she would yield her hand in marriage.

News of the intended marriage coming to the knowledge of his father, Sir William, and his uncle, the latter hastened

hastened to Waltham, to prevent a union which he apprehended would inevitably produce the ruin of the contracting parties.

With much difficulty the uncle prevailed upon Parsons to return to the ship, which in a few days afterwards proceeded on her voyage.

The ship had not been long arrived at the place of destination, when Parsons resolved to desert, and return to England, and soon found an opportunity of shipping himself on board the Sheerness man of war, then preparing to sail on her return home.

Immediately after his arrival in England, he set out for Waltham, in order to visit the object of his desires; but his uncle, being apprised of his motions, repaired to the same place, and represented his character in so unfavourable, but at the same time in so just a manner, as prevented the renewal of his addresses to the physician's daughter.

He went home with his uncle, who observed his conduct with a most scrupulous attention, and confined him, as much as possible, within doors. This generous relation at length got the youth appointed midshipman on board his Majesty's ship the Romney, which was ordered on the Newfoundland station.

Upon his return from Newfoundland, Parsons learnt, with infinite mortification, that the Duchess of Northumberland, to whom he was related, had revoked a will made in his favour, and bequeathed to his sister a very considerable legacy, which he had expected to enjoy. He was repulsed by his friends and acquaintance, who would not in the least countenance his visits at their houses; and his circumstances now became exceedingly distressed.

Thus situated, he applied to a gentleman named Bailey, with whom he had formerly lived on terms of intimacy; and his humanity induced him to invite Parsons to reside in his house, and to furnish him with the means of supporting the character of a gentleman. Mr. Bailey also was indefatigable in his endeavours to effect a reconciliation between young Parsons and his father, in which he at length succeeded.

Sir

Sir William having prevailed upon his son to go abroad again, and procured him an appointment under the governor of James Fort, on the river Gambia, he embarked on board a vessel in the service of the Royal African company.

Parsons had resided at James Fort about six months, when a disagreement took place between him and governor Aufleur ; in consequence of which the former signified a resolution of returning to England. Hereupon the governor informed him that he was commissioned to engage him as an indented servant for five years. Parsons warmly expostulated with the governor, declaring that his behaviour was neither that of a man of probity or a gentleman, and requested permission to return. But so far from complying, the governor issued orders to the centinels to be particularly careful lest he should effect an escape.

Notwithstanding every precaution, Parsons found means to get on board a homeward-bound vessel, and being followed by Mr. Aufleur, he was commanded to return ; but cocking a pistol, and presenting it to the governor, he declared he would fire upon any man who should presume to molest him. Hereupon the governor departed, and in a short time the ship sailed for England.

Soon after his arrival in his native country, he received an invitation to visit an uncle who lived at Epsom, which he gladly accepted, and experienced a most cordial and friendly reception.

He resided with his uncle about three months, and was treated with all imaginable kindness and respect. At length one of the female servants in the family swore herself to be pregnant by him, which so incensed the old gentleman, that he dismissed Parsons from his house.

Reduced to the most deplorable state of poverty, he directed his course towards the metropolis ; and three halfpence being his whole stock of money, he subsisted four days upon the bread purchased with that small sum, quenching his thirst at the pumps he casually met with in the streets. He lay four nights in a hay-loft in Chancery-lane, belonging to the Master of the Rolls, by permission of the coachman, who pitied his truly deplorable case.

At

At length he determined to apply for redress to an ancient gentlewoman, with whom he had been acquainted in his more youthful days, when she was in the capacity of companion to the Duchess of Northumberland. Weak and emaciated through want of food, his appearance was rendered still more miserable by the uncleanness and disorder of his apparel ; and when he appeared before the old lady, she tenderly compassionated his unfortunate situation, and recommended him to a decent family in Cambridge-street, with whom he resided some time in a very comfortable manner, the old gentlewoman defraying the charge of his lodging and board ; and a humane gentleman, to whom she had communicated his case, supplying him with money for common expenses.

Sir William came to town at the beginning of the winter, and received an unexpected visit from his son, who dropped upon his knees, and supplicated forgiveness with the utmost humility and respect. His mother-in-law was greatly enraged at his appearance, and upbraided her husband with being foolishly indulgent to so graceless a youth, at the same time declaring that she would not live in the house where he was permitted to enter.

Sir William asked him what mode of life he meant to adopt ; and his answer was, that he was unable to determine, but would cheerfully pursue such measures as so indulgent a parent should think proper to recommend. The old gentleman then advised him to enter as a private man in the horse-guards ; which he approved of, saying he would immediately offer himself as a volunteer.

Upon mentioning his intention to the adjutant, he was informed that he must pay seventy guineas for his admission into the corps. This news proved exceedingly afflicting, as he had but little hope that his father would advance the necessary sum. Upon returning to his father's lodgings, he learnt that he had set out for the country, and left him a present of only five shillings.

Driven now nearly to a state of distraction, he formed the desperate resolution of putting an end to his life, and repaired to St. James's park, intending to drown himself in Rosamond's pond. While he stood on the brink of the water, waiting for an opportunity of carrying his impious design

design into effect, it occurred to him, that a letter he had received, mentioning the death of an aunt, and that she had bequeathed a legacy to his brother, might be made use of to his own advantage : and he immediately declined the thoughts of destroying himself.

He produced the letter to several persons, assuring them that the writer had been misinformed respecting the legacy, which in reality was left to himself. Under the pretext of being entitled to the above legacy, he obtained money and effects from different people to a considerable amount ; and among those who were deceived by the above stratagem, was a tailor in Devereux-court in the Strand, who gave him credit for several genteel suits of clothes.

The money and other articles thus fraudulently obtained, enabled him to engage in scenes of gaiety and dissipation ; and he seemed to entertain no idea that his happiness would be but of short duration.

Accidentally meeting the brother of the young lady to whom he had made professions of love at Waltham, he intended to renew his acquaintance with him, and his addresses to his sister : but the young gentleman informed Parsons that his sister died suddenly a short time after his departure from Waltham.

Parsons endeavoured as much as possible to cultivate the friendship of the above young gentleman, and represented his case in so plausible a manner, as to obtain money from him at different times to a considerable amount.

Parsons' creditors now became exceedingly importunate ; and he thought there was no probability of relieving himself from his difficulties, but by connecting himself in marriage with a woman of fortune.

Being eminently qualified in those accomplishments which are known to have a great influence over the female world, Parsons soon ingratiated himself into the esteem of a young lady possessed of a handsome independency, bequeathed her by her lately deceased father. He informed his creditors, that he had a prospect of an advantageous marriage ; and as they were satisfied that the lady had a good fortune, they supplied him with every thing necessary for prosecuting the amour, being per-

suaded that, if the expected union took place, they should have no difficulty in recovering their respective demands.

The marriage was solemnized on the 10th of February 1740, in the 23d year of our malefactor's age. On occasion of this event, the uncle, who lived at Epsom, visited him in London, and gave him the strongest assurances that he would exert every possible endeavour to promote his interest and happiness, on condition that he would avoid such proceedings as would render him unworthy of friendship and protection. His relations in general were perfectly satisfied with the connexion he had made, and hoped that his irregular and volatile disposition would be corrected by the prudent conduct of his bride, who was justly esteemed a young lady of great sweetness of temper, virtue, and discretion.

A few weeks after his marriage, his uncle interceded in his behalf with the Right Honourable Arthur Onslow; and through the interest of that gentleman he was appointed an ensign in the thirty-fourth regiment of foot.

He now discharged all his debts, which proved highly satisfactory to all his relations; and this conduct was the means of his obtaining further credit in times of future distress.

He hired a very handsome house in Poland-street, where he resided two years, in which time he had two children, one of whom died very young. From Poland-street he removed to Panton-square, and the utmost harmony subsisted between him and his wife, who were much respected by their relations and acquaintances.

But it must be observed, that though his conduct in other respects had been irreproachable from the time of his marriage, he was guilty of unpardonable indiscretion as to the manner of his living; for he kept three saddle horses, a chaise and pair, several unnecessary servants, and engaged in many other superfluous expenses that his income could not afford.

Unfortunately Parsons became acquainted with an infamous gambler, who seduced him to frequent gaming-houses, and to engage in play. He lost considerable sums, which were shared between the pretended friend of Parsons and his wicked accomplices.

Parsons

Parsons was now promoted to a lieutenancy in a regiment that was ordered into Flanders, and he was accompanied to that country by the abandoned miscreant, whom he considered as his most valuable friend. The money he lost by gaming, and the extravagant manner in which he lived, in a short time involved him in such difficulties that he was under the necessity of selling his commission, in order to discharge his debts contracted in Flanders. The commission being sold, Parsons and his treacherous companion returned to England.

His arrival was no sooner known, than his creditors were extremely urgent for the immediate discharge of their respective claims ; which induced him to take a private lodging in Gough-square, where he passed under the denomination of Captain Brown. He pretended to be an unmarried man ; and saw his wife only when appointments were made to meet at a public-house. While he lodged in Gough-square, he seduced his landlord's daughter, who became pregnant by him ; and her imprudence in yielding to the persuasions of Parsons, proved the means of involving her in extreme distress.

His creditors having discovered the place of his retreat, he deemed it prudent to remove ; and at this juncture an opportunity offered by which he hoped to retrieve his fortune ; and he therefore embarked as captain of marines on board the Dursley privateer.

Soon after the arrival of the ship at Deal, Parsons went on shore, provided with pistols, being determined not to submit to an arrest, which he supposed would be attempted. He had no sooner landed on the beach, than he was approached by five or six men, one of whom attempted to seize him ; but Parsons stepping aside, discharged one of his pistols, and lodged a ball in the man's thigh. He then said he was well provided with weapons, and would fire upon them if they presumed to give him further molestation. Hereupon the officers retreated ; and Parsons returned to the ship, which sailed from Deal the following morning.

They had been in the channel about a week, when they made a prize of a French privateer, which they carried into the port of Cork. Parsons being now afflicted with a

disorder that prevailed among the French prisoners, was sent on shore for the recovery of his health. During his illness the vessel sailed on another cruize, and he was no sooner in a condition to permit him to leave his apartment, than he became anxious to partake of the fashionable amusements.

In order to recruit his finances, which were nearly exhausted, he drew bills of exchange on three merchants in London, on which he raised sixty pounds; and before advice could be transmitted to Cork, that he had no effects in the hands of the persons on whom he had drawn the bills, he embarked on board a vessel bound for England.

He landed at Plymouth, where he resided some time under a military character, to support his claim to which he was provided with a counterfeit commission. He frequented all places of public resort, and particularly where gaming was permitted. His money being nearly expended, he obtained a hundred pounds from a merchant of Plymouth, by means of a false draught upon an alderman of London. Some time after the discovery of the fraud, the injured party saw Parsons a transport prisoner on board a ship bound to Virginia, lying in Catwater bay, where he assured him of an entire forgiveness, and made him a present of a guinea.

From Plymouth, Parsons repaired to London, and his money being nearly spent, he committed the following fraud, in conjunction with a woman of the town: taking his accomplice to a tavern in the Strand (where he was known), he represented her as an heiress, who had consented to a private marriage, and requested the landlord to send immediately for a clergyman. The Parson being arrived, and about to begin the ceremony, Parsons pretended to recollect that he had forgot to provide a ring, and ordered the waiter to tell some shopkeeper in the neighbourhood to bring some plain gold rings. Upon this the clergyman begged to recommend a very worthy man, who kept a jeweller's shop in the neighbourhood: and Parsons said it was a matter of indifference with whom he laid out his money; adding, that as he wished to compliment his bride with some small present, the tradesman might also bring some diamond rings.

The

The rings being brought, and one of each chosen, Parsons produced a counterfeit draught, saying the jeweller might either give him change then, or call for payment after the ceremony; on which the jeweller retired, saying, he would attend again in the afternoon. In a little time, the woman formed a pretence for leaving the room, and upon her not returning soon, our hero affected great impatience, and without taking his hat, quitted the apartment, saying, he would inquire of the people of the house whether his bride had not been detained by some unforeseen accident.

After waiting a considerable time, the clergyman called the landlord; and, as neither Parsons nor the woman could be found, it was rightly concluded, that their whole intention was to perpetrate a fraud. In the mean time, our hero and his accomplice met at an appointed place, and divided their booty.

Soon after the above transaction, Parsons intimated to a military officer, that on account of the many embarrassments he was under, he was determined to join the rebel army, as the only expedient by which he could avoid being lodged in prison. The gentleman represented the danger of engaging in such an adventure, and lest his distress should precipitate him to any rash proceeding, generously supplied him with forty guineas, to answer present exigencies.

He soon after borrowed the above gentleman's horse, pretending that he had occasion to go a few miles into the country, on a matter of business; but he immediately rode to Smithfield, where he sold the horse at a very inadequate price.

That he might escape the resentment of the gentleman whom he had treated in so unworthy a manner, he lodged an information against him, as being disaffected to the government: in consequence of which he was deprived of his commission, and suffered an imprisonment of six months. He exhibited informations of a similar nature against two other gentlemen, who had been most liberal benefactors to him, in revenge for refusing any longer to supply him with the means of indulging his extravagant and profligate disposition.

In

In the year 1745, he counterfeited a draught upon one of the collectors of the excise, in the name of the Duke of Cumberland, for five hundred pounds. He carried the draught to the collector, who paid him fifty pounds in part, being all the cash that remained in his hands.

He went to a tailor, saying he meant to employ him, on the recommendation of a gentleman of the army, whom he had long supplied with clothes; adding, that a captain's commission was preparing for him at the war-office. The tailor furnished him with several suits of clothes, but not being paid according to agreement, he entertained some suspicion as to the responsibility of his new customer; and therefore inquired at the war-office respecting Captain Brown, and learnt that a commission was making out for a gentleman of that name. Unable to get any part of the money due to him, and determined to be no longer trifled with, he instituted a suit at common law, but was non-suited, having laid his action in the fictitious name of Brown, and it appearing that Parsons was the defendant's real name.

Parsons sent a porter from the Ram Inn, in Smithfield, with a counterfeit draught upon Sir Joseph Hankey and Co. for five hundred pounds. Parsons followed the man, imagining that if he came out of Sir Joseph's house alone, he would have received the money; and that if he was accompanied by any person, it would be a strong proof of the forgery being discovered; upon observing Sir Joseph and the porter get into a hackney-coach, he resolved not to return to the inn.

He next went to a widow named Bottomley, who lived near St. George's Church, and saying he had contracted to supply the regiment to which he belonged with hats, gave her an order to the amount of one hundred and sixty pounds. He had no sooner got possession of the hats, than he sold them to a Jew for one half of the sum he had agreed to pay for them.

Being strongly apprehensive that he could not long avoid being arrested by some of his numerous and highly-exasperated creditors, he, by means of counterfeit letters, procured himself to be taken into custody, as a person disaffected to the King and government; and he was supported,

ported, without expense, in the house of one of the King's messengers, for the space of eighteen months.

Being released from the messenger's house, he revolved in his mind a variety of schemes for eluding the importunity of his creditors, and at length determined to embark for Holland.

He remained in Holland a few months, and when his money was nearly expended he returned to England. A few days after his arrival in London, he went to a masquerade, where he engaged in play to the hazard of every shilling he possessed, and was so fortunate as to obtain a sufficient sum for his maintenance for several months.

His circumstances being again distressed, he wrote in pressing terms to his brother-in-law, who was an East-India Director, entreating that he would procure him a commission in the company's service, either by land or sea. The purport of the answer was, that a gentleman in the Temple was authorized to give the suppliant a guinea, but that it would be fruitless for him to expect further favours.

Having written a counterfeit draught, he went to Ranelagh on a masquerade night, where he passed the draught to a gentleman who had won some small sums of him. The party who received the draught offered it for payment in a day or two afterwards, when it was proved to be a counterfeit, in consequence of which Parsons was apprehended, and committed to Wood-street Compter.

As no prosecutor appeared, Parsons was necessarily acquitted; but a detainer being lodged, charging him with an offence similar to the above, he was removed to Maidstone Gaol, to take his trial at the Lent assizes at Rochester.

Mr. Carey, the keeper of the prison, treated Parsons with great humanity, allowing him to board in his family, and indulging him in every privilege that he could grant, without a manifest breach of the duties of his office. But such was the ingratitude of Parsons, that he meditated a plan, which, had it taken effect, would have utterly ruined the man to whom he was indebted in such great obligations. His intention was, privately to take the keys from Mr. Carey's apartment; and not only to escape himself,

self, but even to give liberty to every prisoner in the gaol ; and this scheme he communicated to a man accused of being a smuggler, who reported the matter to Mr. Carey, desiring him to listen at an appointed hour at night, when he would hear a conversation that would prove his intelligence to be authentic. Mr. Carey attended at the appointed time ; and being convinced of the ingratitude and perfidy of Parsons, he abridged him of the indulgences he had before enjoyed, and caused him to be closely confined.

Being convicted at the assizes at Rochester, he was sentenced to transportation for seven years : and in the following September he was put on board the *Thames*, Captain Dobbins, bound for Maryland, in company with upwards of one hundred and seventy other convicts, fifty of whom died in the voyage. In November, 1749, Parsons was landed at Annapolis, in Maryland ; and having remained in a state of slavery about seven weeks, a gentleman of considerable property and influence, who was not wholly unacquainted with his family, compassionating his unfortunate situation, obtained his freedom, and received him at his house in a most kind and hospitable manner.

Parsons had not been in the gentleman's family many days before he rode off with a horse which was lent him by his benefactor, and proceeded towards Virginia ; on the borders of which country he stopped a gentleman on horseback, and robbed him of five pistoles, a moidore, and ten dollars.

A few days after, he stopped a lady and gentleman in a chaise, attended by a negro servant, and robbed them of eleven guineas and some silver : after which he directed his course to Potomack river, where finding a ship nearly ready to sail for England, he embarked, and after a passage of twenty-five days landed at Whitehaven.

He now produced a forged letter, in the name of one of his relations, to a capital merchant of Whitehaven, signifying that he was entitled to the family estate, in consequence of his father's decease, and prevailed upon him to discount a false draught upon a banker in London for seventy-five pounds.

Upon his arrival in the metropolis, he hired a handsome lodging

lodging at the west end of the town: but he almost constantly resided in houses of ill fame, where the money he had so unjustifiably obtained was soon dissipated.

Having hired a horse he rode to Hounslow-heath, where, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, he stopped a post-chaise, in which were two gentlemen, whom he robbed of five guineas, some silver, and a watch.

A short time afterwards he stopped a gentleman near Turnham-green, about twelve o'clock at night, and robbed him of thirty shillings and a gold ring. He requested that the ring might be returned, as he valued it, being his wife's wedding ring. Parsons complied with the gentleman's request, and voluntarily returned the gentleman five shillings, telling him at the same time, that nothing but the most pressing necessity could have urged him to the robbery: after which, the gentleman shook hands with the robber, assuring him that, on account of the civility of his behaviour, he would not appear to prosecute if he should hear of his being apprehended.

He attempted to rob a gentleman in a coach and four near Kensington, but hearing some company on the road, he proceeded towards Hounslow, and on his way thither overtook a farmer, and robbed him of between forty and fifty shillings. He then took the road to Colnbrook, and robbed a gentleman's servant of two guineas and a half, and a silver watch. After this he rode to Windsor, and returned to London by a different road.

His next expedition was on the Hounslow road, and at the entrance of the heath he stopped two gentlemen, and robbed them of seven guineas, some silver, and a curiously wrought silver snuff-box.

Returning to his lodgings near Hyde-park-corner one evening, he overtook a footman in Piccadilly, and joining company with him, a familiar conversation took place, in the course of which Parsons learnt that the other was to set out early on the following Sunday, with a port-manteau containing cash and notes to a considerable value, the property of his master, who was then at Windsor.

On the Sunday morning he rode towards Windsor, intending to rob the footman. Soon after he had passed Turnham-green, he overtook two gentlemen, one of whom was Mr. Fuller, who had prosecuted him at Rochester,

and who, perfectly recollecting his person, warned him not to approach. However, he paid no attention to what Mr. Fuller said, but still continued sometimes behind and sometimes before them, though at a very inconsiderable distance.

Upon coming into the town of Hounslow, the gentlemen alighted, and commanded Parsons to surrender, adding, that if he did not instantly comply, they would alarm the town. He now dismounted, and earnestly entreated that the gentlemen would permit him to speak to them in private, which they consented to; and the parties being introduced to a room at an inn, Parsons surrendered his pistols, which were loaded and primed, and supplicated for mercy in the most pathetic terms.

In all probability he would have been permitted to escape, had not Mr. Day, landlord of the Rose and Crown at Hounslow, come into the room, and advised that he might be detained, as he conceived him very nearly to answer the description of a highwayman by whom the roads in that part of the country had been long infested. He was secured at the inn till the next day, and then examined by a magistrate, who committed him to Newgate.

Parsons was now arraigned for returning from transportation before the expiration of the term of his sentence; nothing therefore remained to convict him but the identifying his person. This done he received sentence of death. His distressed father and wife used all their interest to obtain for him a pardon, but in vain: he was an old offender, and judged by no means a fit object for mercy.

While Parsons remained in Newgate, his behaviour was such, that it could not be determined whether he entertained a proper idea of his dreadful situation. There is indeed but too much reason to fear that the hopes of a reprieve (in which he deceived himself even to the last moments of his life) induced him to neglect the necessary preparation for eternity.

His taking leave of his wife afforded a scene extremely affecting; he recommended to her parental protection his only child, and regretted that his misconduct had put it in the power of a censorious world to reflect upon both the mother and son.

At

At the place of execution he joined in the devotional exercises with a fervency of zeal that proved him to be convinced of the necessity of obtaining the pardon of his Creator.

*THOMAS QUIN, JOSEPH DOWDELL, AND
THOMAS TALBOT,*

(A Gang of Notorious Thieves,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JUNE 17, 1751, FOR ROBBERY.

“ At length these miserable robbers see,
Unhappy fruit, suspended on the tree ;
They teach, sad lesson ! in their wretched state,
That shame and ruin are the villain’s fate ;
And that too late each guilty man will find,
Justice, though sometimes slow, is never blind.”

THE villains disclosed in this narrative, will shew the necessity of the act of parliament for inflicting punishment on masters and mistresses giving a false character of a servant.

A corrupt servant is the most dangerous inmate of a house ; and therefore too much caution cannot be used in admitting such domestics.

Quin, a murderer in his own country, Ireland, was recommended to London as a youth of good morals ; while his disposition was base to a great degree.

Dowdell, who in his apprenticeship had injured his first master, procured a recommendation to another, to whom he also proved a villain.

Talbot, the third of this dangerous gang, after having robbed on the highway, and being afraid of apprehension, applied to be restored to honest servitude, and was refused, but his master, in pity to his distresses, recommended him to a nobleman.

Talbot, on the first opportunity, robbing his noble employer, we would ask whether the late master, knowing the servant to have been a thief, was not, in recommending him to an honest employ, virtually, the greater villain of the two ? In fine, they were all, from early youth, delinquents ; and each had been imposed on honest people by those who knew them to be such. No

wonder, then, that they will be found thereof the greatest rascals in this calendar of crimes.

Quin was a native of Dublin, the son of honest, but poor parents; and his father dying while he was a child, his uncle put him to school, and afterwards placed him apprentice to a buckle-maker, with whom he served three years faithfully; but his friends supplying him with clothes too genteel for his rank in life, he began to associate with gay company, and was guilty of many irregularities.

These thoughtless youths were frequently concerned in riots, and Quin was considered as the head of the party. In one of these nocturnal insurrections, Quin murdered a man, whose friends, watching him to his master's house, desired that he might be delivered up to justice; but some of the journeymen sallying forth with offensive weapons, drove off the people; on which a warrant was issued for apprehending the murderer, when his master advised him to depart for England.

A subscription for his use being raised by his friends, he came to London, having recommendations to some gentlemen in that city; but of these he made no use, for, frequenting the purlieus of St. Giles's, he spent his money among the lowest of his countrymen, and then entered on board a man of war.

After a service of six months, he quitted the ship at Leghorn, and sailed in another vessel to Jamaica, where he received his wages, which he soon spent. He now agreed to work his passage to England, and the ship arriving in the port of London, he took lodgings in St. Giles's, and soon afterwards became acquainted with Dowdell and Talbot, of whom we are now to give an account.

Dowdell was the son of a bookbinder in Dublin, who being in low circumstances was unable to educate his children as he could have wished. His son Joseph, who was remarkable for the badness of his disposition, he prenticed to a breeches-maker, but the graceless youth grew weary of his place before he had served two years of his time.

Dowdell being ordered by his master to take proper care of some green leather, particularly to defend it from the snow; instead thereof, he heaped such quantities of
snow

snow and ice on it, that it was greatly reduced in value. This circumstance so exasperated his master, that he was glad to get rid of him by delivering up his indentures of apprenticeship.

Thus at large, and the father ill able to support him, he was recommended to the service of a gentleman in the country, with whom he might have lived happily : but he behaved badly in his place, and running away to Dublin, commenced pickpocket.

After some practice in this way, he became connected with a gang of housebreakers, in company with whom he committed several depredations in Dublin. Having broke open a gentleman's house, he was opposed by the servants, and effected his escape only by the use he made of a hanger : soon after which he was taken by the watchmen, and being carried before a magistrate, he was committed to prison till the next morning. His person was advertised, and he was brought to trial, but none of the servants being able to swear to him, he was acquitted for want of evidence.

He now renewed his dangerous practices, and committed a variety of robberies. The following is one of the most singular of his exploits. Going to the house of a farmer, near Dublin, he pretended to be a citizen who wanted a lodging, for the benefit of his health, and he would pay a liberal price.

The unsuspecting farmer put his lodger into the best chamber, and supplied his table in the most ample manner. After a residence of ten days, he asked the farmer's company to the town of Finglass, where he wanted to purchase some necessaries. The farmer attending him, Dowdell purchased some articles at different shops, till seeing a quantity of gold in a till, he formed a resolution of appropriating it to his own use.

Having returned home with the farmer, Dowdell pretended to recollect that he had omitted to purchase some medicines, which he must take that night, and which had occasioned his going to Finglass. Hereupon the farmer ordered a horse to be saddled, and Dowdell set forwards, on a promise to return before night.

On his arrival at Finglass he put up his horse, and
stealing

stealing unperceived into the shop above-mentioned, he stole the till with the money, and immediately set out for Dublin.

In the interim, the farmer missing his lodger, went to Finglass, and not finding him there, proceeded to Dublin, where he chanced to put up his horse at the same inn where Dowdell had taken up his quarters.

In a short time he saw our adventurer with some dealers, to whom he would have sold the horse; on which the farmer procured a constable, seized the offender, and lodged him in prison.

For this presumed robbery (a real one, doubtless, in the intention) he was brought to trial; but it appearing that the farmer had intrusted him with the horse, he could be convicted of nothing more than a fraud, for which he received sentence of transportation.

The vessel in which he sailed being overtaken by a storm, was dashed on the rocks of Cumberland, and many lives were lost, but several, among whom was Dowdell, swam on shore, and went to Whitehaven, where the inhabitants contributed liberally to their relief. Dowdell travelling to Liverpool, entered on board a privateer, which soon took several prizes, for which he received 60% to his share, which he soon squandered in the most thoughtless extravagance. Being reduced to poverty, he robbed a Portuguese gentleman; for which he was apprehended, but afterwards released on the intercession of the gentlemen of the English factory; on which he sailed for England, and arrived at London.

He had not been long in the metropolis, before he associated with a gang of pickpockets and street-robbers (among whom was one Carter), whose practice it was to commit depredations at the doors of the theatres. Dowdell had not long entered into this association, before he and Carter went under the piazzas in Covent-garden, where the latter demanded a gentleman's money, while Dowdell watched at a little distance, to give notice in case of a surprise. While Carter was examining the gentleman's pockets, he drew his sword and killed the robber on the spot; and a mob gathering at the instant, it was with great difficulty that Dowdell effected his escape.

He

He now went to the lodgings of a woman of ill fame, who having been heretofore kept by a man of rank, he had given her a gold watch and some trifling jewels, which Dowdell advised her to pawn, to raise him ready money.

The girl hesitating to comply, he beat her in a most violent manner, on which she swore the peace against him; whereupon he was lodged in Newgate, but discharged at the next sessions, no prosecution being commenced against him.

He was no sooner at large, than he made a connexion with a woman of the town, whom an officer had taken to Gibraltar, and during her residence with him she had saved a hundred moidores. Dowdell having possessed himself of this sum, soon spent it extravagantly, and then prevailed on her to pawn her clothes for his support.

Talbot was the son of poor parents, who lived in Wapping, and having received a common education, he engaged himself as the driver of a post-chaise, in the service of a stable-keeper in Piccadilly. While he was driving two gentlemen on the Bath road, a highwayman stopped the carriage, and robbed them of their watches and money.

This circumstance gave Talbot an idea of acquiring money by illicit means; wherefore, on his return to London, he made himself acquainted with some highwaymen, assuring them that he was properly qualified to give them the intelligence necessary for the successful management of their business.

His proposal met with a ready acceptance; and a company having soon afterwards hired a coach and six of his master to go to Bath, Talbot gave one of the highwaymen notice of the affair; and it was resolved that the robbery should be committed on Hounslow-heath.

The highwaymen meeting the carriage on the appointed spot, robbed the parties of all they had, so that they were obliged to return to London for money before they could pursue their journey. Talbot's share of this ill-gotten booty amounted to fifty pounds, which gave him such spirits that he resolved to pursue the same iniquitous mode of living.

In consequence of this resolution, Talbot informed the highwayman of some company going to Bath, and he attempted to rob them, but a gentleman in the carriage shot him dead on the spot.

Mortified

Mortified at this accident which had befallen his friend, Talbot no sooner arrived in London than he determined to resign his employment, and commence robber on his own account; but previous to engaging in this business, he spent his ready money in the worst company.

After several attempts to commit robberies, and having narrowly escaped the hands of justice, he grew sick of his employment, and requested his former master to take him into his service. This he declined, but in pity to his distress, recommended him to a nobleman, in whose family he was engaged.

Talbot had been but a short time in his new place, before he robbed the house of several articles of value, which he sold to the Jews, to supply the extravagance of one of the maid servants, with whom he had an amour.

This theft was not discovered at the time; but Talbot was soon discharged from his place, in consequence of the badness of his temper, which rendered him insupportable to his fellow servants.

On his dismissal he spent his ready money with the most abandoned company, and then commencing house-breaker, committed a variety of depredations in the neighbourhood of London; for one of which he was apprehended and brought to trial at the Old Bailey, but acquitted for want of evidence.

On the very evening he was acquitted, he stopped a carriage in Drury-lane, and robbed a gentleman of his money, which he soon spent among the most dissolute of both sexes; and within a week afterwards, he broke into a house in Westminster, where he obtained plate and cash to a large amount, but was not apprehended for this offence.

In a few days he was taken into custody for picking a gentleman's pocket, brought to trial at the Old Bailey, sentenced to be transported for seven years, shipped to America, and sold to slavery.

He had not been long in this situation, when he embarked at Boston, in New England, on board a privateer: but when at sea he entered into a conspiracy with some of the sailors, to murder the officers, and seize the vessel; but the confederacy being discovered in time, a severe punishment was inflicted on Talbot and the other villains.

Talbot

Talbot, quitting the privateer, sailed to England in a man of war, and engaging with some street-robbers in London, was apprehended, convicted, and sentenced to die: but he found interest to obtain a pardon on condition of transportation.

However, he had not been long abroad before he returned, in company with an abandoned woman, who had been transported at the same time; and this woman introduced him to the acquaintance of Quin and Dowdell, in company with whom he committed a considerable number of robberies.

These accomplices robbed six coaches one evening, and obtained considerable plunder; but this being soon spent in extravagance, they at length embarked in a robbery which cost them their lives.

Having made a connexion with one Cullen, they all joined in a street-robbery, and stopping a coach near Long Acre, robbed a gentleman of his watch and money.

Some people being informed of the affair, immediately pursued them; and Cullen, being taken into custody, was admitted an evidence against his accomplices, who were apprehended on the following day.

Being brought to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, they received sentence of death; but, after conviction, seemed as little sensible of the enormity of their crimes, as almost any offenders whose cases we have had occasion to record.

Dowdell and Quin were Roman Catholics; and Talbot refusing to join in devotion with the ordinary of Newgate, at the place of execution, we can say nothing of the disposition of mind in which they left this world.

We would have wished the following exclamation in the mouths of these miserable sinners, at the time they made their dying atonements:

“ O ! omnipotent Creator ! Such hellish deeds
“ My soul abhors. O Lord ! behold my frame,
“ My inmost frame, and cleanse my sinful thoughts ;
“ Then ever guide me in thy perfect way,
“ The way establish'd to eternal bliss.”

These men died, we fear, unrepenting sinners.

WILLIAM DELLICOT,

CONVICTED OF PETIT LARCENY, IN JULY 1751, AND HIS ESTATE FORFEITED FOR STEALING A PENNY.

LARCENY is divided into two sorts : 1st, Grand Larceny, and 2d, Petit Larceny. The first is defined to be—the felonious taking and carrying away the mere personal property or goods of another above the value of twelve-pence. This offence is capital, and punished with death and the forfeiture of property.

Petit Larceny is where the goods taken in the above manner are under the value of twelvepence, and is cognizable at the quarter sessions of each county ; in which case the punishment, according to the circumstances of atrocity attending the offence, is imprisonment, whipping, or transportation, with forfeiture of goods and chattels.

Thus it appears, that by the rigour of the law, stealing the least trifle above twelvepence subjects the offender to the loss of life ; a punishment apparently repugnant to reason, policy, or justice ; more especially when it is considered that at the time this Anglo-Saxon law was made, in the reign of Athelstan, eight hundred and sixty years ago, one shilling was of more value, according to the price of labour, than seventy-five shillings at the present period ; the life of man, therefore, may be justly said to be seventy-five times cheaper than it was when this mode of punishment was first established.

Mixed or Compound Larceny has a greater degree of guilt in it than simple Larceny ; and may be committed either by taking from a man or from his house. If a person is previously put in fear, or assaulted, the crime is denominated robbery.

When a larceny is committed, which does not put the party robbed in fear, it is done privately, and without his knowledge, by picking his pocket, or cutting the purse, and stealing from thence above the value of twelve-pence ; publicly, with the knowledge of the party, by stealing a hat or wig, and running away.

With respect to dwelling-houses, the common law has been altered by various acts of parliament, the multiplicity of which is apt to create confusion ; but upon comparing them diligently, we may collect, that the following domestic

domestic aggravations of larceny are punishable with death without benefit of clergy.

First, larcenies above the value of twelvepence, committed—1st. In a church or chapel, with or without violence, or breaking the same, 23 Henry VIII. cap. i. 1 Edward VI. cap. xii.—2d. In a booth or tent, in a market or fair, in the day-time or in the night, by violence, or breaking the same, the owner or some of his family being therein: 5 and 6 Edward VI. cap. ix.—3d. By robbing a dwelling-house in the day-time, which robbing implies a breaking, any person being therein: 3 and 4 William and Mary, cap. ix.—4th. By the same act, (and see the act 23 Henry VIII. cap. i.) in a dwelling-house, by day or by night, without breaking the same, any person being therein and put in fear, which amounts in law to a robbery; and in both these last cases, the accessory before the fact is also excluded from the benefit of clergy.

Secondly, Larcenies to the value of five shillings, committed—1st. By breaking any dwelling-house, or any out-house, shop, or warehouse thereunto belonging, in the day-time, although no person be therein; which also now extends to aiders, abettors, and accessories before the fact; 39 Elizabeth, cap. xv.; see also 3 and 4 William and Mary, cap. ix.—2d. By privately stealing goods, wares, or merchandize, in any shop, warehouse, coach-house, or stable, by day or night, though the same be not broken open, and though no person be therein; which likewise extends to such as assist, hire, or command, the offence to be committed: 10 and 11 William III. cap. xxiii.

Lastly, Larcenies to the value of forty shillings, from a dwelling-house or its out-houses, although the same be not broken, and whether any person be therein or not; unless committed against their masters by apprentices under the age of fifteen: 12 Anne, stat. 1, cap. vii.

Having shewn the ancient provision of the law against larceny in general, and that a *worshipful bench of country justices* are employed to dispense that law as far as respects simple larceny, we shall briefly adduce an instance of its application.

The judges of the courts of record in Westminster, apprised of the oppression of this law in the present times,

when pursued to the exact letter, pass over petty offences, which hunger alone often causes; while the self-important *Country Quorum*, (and more especially if the unlucky culprit had offended a member of that body, or killed a hare or a partridge on any of their lands,) rigorously apply each penalty.

The following case, in some measure, may warrant these observations; which we shall merely quote from the public prints of the time and place of the conviction and sentence.

“ William Dellicot was convicted at the quarter-sessions, July 1751, for Salisbury, (Wiltshire,) of petty larceny, for stealing one penny:* whereby his effects consisting of bank-notes of 180*l.* and twenty guineas in money, were forfeited to the bishop, as lord of the manor; but his lordship *humanely* ordered 100*l.* of the money to be put to interest for the benefit of the *wretch's* daughter: 20*l.* to be given to his aged father, and the remainder to be returned to the delinquent himself.”

Though stealing a penny is certainly a crime, meriting a proportionate punishment; recollect, reader, should you commit this crime, and rob your neighbour to the value of *one penny*, you may have a bishop *humanely* carving out your estate, however valuable, as he pleases, or appropriating the whole to his own use.

Thus have we shewn the punishment for stealing a single penny; now then, let us look at that of a public defaulter, to the amount of thousands, and tens of thousands of pounds. We shall find it simply imprisonment; and that he should not dip deeper into the public purse, rendered unfit to serve his Majesty in future.

The following, taken from the Terms notes, is the sentence passed upon a wholesale speculator.

“ In the Court of King's Bench, on the 19th of June, 1809, Valentine Jones, Esq. late commissary-General in the West Indies, was brought up to receive the

* At the rate of the increased value of money since the Saxon heptarchy, a penny, when the law was made, under which this man was oppressed, would now be of the value of six shillings; a sum, if stolen, deserving prosecution. Thus we find the law, in that proportion, severer than those which governed our barbarous ancestors.

judgment of the court, having been found guilty of fraud and peculation, to the amount of 87,179*l.* being *but a moiety* of the sum of which the country had been defrauded by his collusion with Mr. Matthew Higgins. Judge Grose, after commenting upon the enormity of the offence, said, that whatever other proceedings might be instituted, it was the duty of the court to pass such sentence as would be likely to prevent future peculation, and therefore adjudged him to be imprisoned three years in his Majesty's gaol of Newgate, and be incapacitated from serving his Majesty in future."

The Quibbling Thief.

A *poor pun* will sometimes answer a good purpose. A baker once calling upon Mr. Justice Jones, of Coventry, with the last loaf in his basket, was observed, as he returned through the Court-yard, to lay hold of a fat goose, on which his worship, who was at one of the upper windows, bawled out, *Baker ! Baker ! Baker !* The varlet took no notice, but trudged off with his prize. When the Justice, in the afternoon went to his house, and asked him how he could have the villanous impudence to take the goose ? "God bless your worship," returned he, "I only did as you commanded,—you bid me *bake her*, and I did so, and drank your worship's health at the eating of her."—" 'Tis a poor pun, said the justice, but it shall make thy peace ;—but beware, lest the next goose you steal, brings down the LAW upon you, hissing hot."

WILLIAM CHANDLER,

(*A singularly artful Villain,*)

TRANSPORTED IN THE YEAR 1751, FOR PERJURY.

THE scheme laid by this man for the purpose of plunder, in art and consummate hypocrisy, had not been equalled by
any

any of his fraternity. His plan was to rob a whole county. Every robbery committed, the hundred where it happens, or the county at large, are responsible for the amount of the loss which the injured, in certain cases, may sustain. In his attempt at this kind of fraud, he implicated three innocent men, by whom he pretended to have been robbed, and which, had his tale met credit, would have consequently affected their lives. Happily his diabolical attempt was frustrated, and we are almost led to regret that the utmost vengeance of the law could not overtake him.

There is a palpable contradiction between the laws and the natural sentiments of mankind in the case of oaths which are administered to a criminal to make him speak the truth, when the contrary is his greatest interest; as if a man could think himself obliged to contribute to his own destruction, and as if, when interest speaks, religion is not generally silent: religion, which in all ages hath, of all other things, been most commonly abused. And indeed, upon what motive should it be respected by the wicked, when it has been thus violated by those who were esteemed the wisest of men? The motives which religion opposes to the fear of impending evil and the love of life are too weak, as they are too distant, to make any impression on the senses. The affairs of the other world are regulated by laws entirely different from those by which human affairs are directed; why then should you endeavour to compromise matters between them? why should a man be reduced to the terrible alternative either of offending God, or of contributing to his own immediate destruction? The laws which require an oath in such a case, leave him only the choice of becoming a bad christian or a martyr. For this reason, oaths become, by degrees, a mere formality, and all sentiments of religion, perhaps the only motive of honesty in the greatest part of mankind, are destroyed. Experience proves their inutility. I appeal to every judge whether he has ever known that an oath alone has brought truth from the lips of a criminal? and reason tells us it must be so; for all laws are useless, and in consequence destructive which contradict the natural feelings of mankind. Such

Such laws are like a dike, opposed directly to the course of a torrent ; it is either immediately overwhelmed, or by a whirlpool formed by itself, it is gradually undermined and destroyed.

Perjury is an offence particularly prevalent among the inferior ranks in society ; it is to be attributed in no small degree to the want of proper solemnity, and previous explanation on the administration of oaths. Nothing can exceed the unimpressive and careless manner which is in practice in calling upon witnesses to make this solemn appeal to the Supreme Being. It would seem highly necessary that all oaths should be administered in the most impressive manner by the judge, and that a form should be devised, calculated, in the greatest possible degree, to impress upon the mind of the party a high sense of the obligation he or she has come under to speak the truth.

On the whole, it may be asserted that nothing could tend to improve the police of the country and the metropolis more than a general revision of the laws respecting misdemeanors, and particularly the act of the 17 Geo. II. cap. 5, and subsequent acts respecting vagrants and rogues, and vagabonds ; so as to assimilate them in a greater degree to the present state of society, and to render their execution more certain and beneficial to the community.

The Irish formerly used to swear **BY THE HAND**. This mode of taking an oath they, perhaps, adopted from the Prophet Isaiah, ch. lxii. v. 8. "The Lord hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength."

If Virgil had suffered Mezentius to swear, who could say "Dextra mihi Deus," *Æn.* x. 773, it would have been, no doubt, by his **HAND**.

Dean Swift, who was an Irishman, has exemplified this oath of his countrymen, in his description of an Irish feast :

"By my hand you dance rarely."

William Chandler was the only child of Mr. Thomas Chandler, of Woodborough, near the Devizes, a gentleman farmer, of two hundred pounds a year, who at the age of about seventeen, fixed him with Mr. Banks, clerk
of

of the goldsmiths' company, from whom, by reason of frequent disputes, he was turned over before two years had passed, to Mr. Hill, of Clifford's Inn, and here he gained the love of his master, and respect of his clients.

Chandler, while he was with Mr. Banks, had married the maid servant, but so artfully concealed it, that it was never suspected by either of his masters, nor any of his own family; and Mr. Hill having a long contested lawsuit in hand for the father, the profits of which he made over to his son, he was enabled to keep his wife in lodgings.

Chandler's clerkship being nearly expired, he had projected a scheme to double his fortune. This scheme was to get as much money into his hands as he could possibly raise, to set out with it to the country, upon some plausible pretence, swear he was robbed of it by the way, and then sue the hundred. To do this in the ordinary way he knew was hazardous, and liable to many miscarriages, he therefore laid his plot so deep, that, as he thought, it should be beyond the reach of human discovery.

In the first place it was necessary to raise a sum, which could not be done without deceiving both his father and master; he therefore told the former that he had an advantageous match in view, and the latter, that he had a rich uncle in Suffolk, whom he pretended to visit, and to have received from him several bank bills, which he shewed to favour the deceit. By these artifices he obtained from his father, the possession of an estate worth about four hundred pounds, and accounted to his master for his having five hundred pounds more, which it does not appear how he acquired.

He then applied to his master, to advance five hundred pounds upon his new estate, which, with his other five hundred pounds, he was going, he said, to lend to one Mrs. Strait, of Salisbury, on an estate at Enford, within six or seven miles from his father's house, on which there was a prior mortgage of five hundred pounds, with interest due to one Mr. Poor, of Enford, who wanted to call in his money.

Mr. Hill believing his clerk implicitly, even with respect

spect to the value of his estate, procured the five hundred pounds of one Mr. Winter. While the mortgage was making, Mr. Chandler went down to Mrs. Strait, and offered to pay Mr. Poor his five hundred pounds, and interest, and to advance to her five hundred pounds more, on the same estate, which she readily accepted; and though it was now the 14th of March, 1747, he appointed her to meet him at Enford, on the 25th of the same month, to receive the money; he then hurried home, and immediately prepared a proper assignment for Mr. Poor's mortgage to himself, with receipts for the thousand pounds, and wrote to Mrs. Strait not to forget the day, (March 25, 1748) appointing ten as the hour of meeting. Now on the 22d the mortgage of Chandler's own estate to Winter was executed, and the money paid in three bank notes, which Chandler the next day changed at the bank, for eight of fifty pounds, and five of twenty pounds each, all of the same date, and payable to Henry Taylor.

On the 24th early, having got most of his cash in small bills, to the amount of nine hundred pounds, he found, when he came to put these in canvas bags under his garters, where he proposed to carry them for safety, that they made too great a bundle, and therefore he took several of the small bills, with some cash, amounting to four hundred and forty pounds, and exchanged them at the bank for two notes, one of four hundred pounds, and the other of forty pounds; the first of which, in his way home, he changed in his master's name, at Sir Richard Hoare's, for one note of two hundred pounds, and two of one hundred pounds each; but told his master, that the bank clerks were a little out of humour at the trouble he had already given them, and that he had changed his small notes with a stranger in the bank-hall for the notes which he in reality, had received at Sir Richard Hoare's. Mr. Hill, at Chandler's request, having wrote down the numbers and dates of the several bills, and seen them put safe up, Chandler took leave of him, and about twelve o'clock set out.

About four the same afternoon, though he had ninety miles to go by ten on the morrow, he had reached no farther than Hare-hatch, about thirty miles from London

where he stopped at Mr. Butter's to refresh, and about five, just as he had left his inn, was as he said, unfortunately met by three bargemen on foot, who, after they had robbed him of his watch and money, took him to a pit close by the road, and there stript him of all his bank notes, bound his hands and feet, and left him, threatening to return and shoot him, if he made the least noise. In this woeful condition, he lay three hours, though the pit was so near the road that not a single horse could pass without his hearing; yet when night came he could jump bound as he was, near half a mile all up hill, till, luckily for his purpose, he met one Avery, a silly shepherd, who cut the strings, but could give no account what they were or how fastened.

The first question Chandler asked Avery after he had unbound him was, where a constable or tythingman lived: Upon which Avery conducted him to Richard Kelly the constable's just by, and with him Mr. Chandler left the notices required by the statutes, with the description of the persons who robbed him, so exactly, that Mr. Young, of Hare-hatch, remembered three such men to have passed by his house about the very time the robbery was said to have been committed, who were also seen and known by Mr. Dredge, the mayor of Reading, on Maidenhead thicket, between four and five the same day. Chandler then returned to the inn where he had refreshed, and after telling his deplorable tale, and acquainting his landlord with his intentions of suing the hundred, he ordered a good supper, a bowl of punch, and sat down with as little concern, as if nothing had happened.

Next day Chandler returned to London, acquainted his master with what had happened, and requested his assistance.

Mr. Hill gave him the memorandum he had of the numbers, dates, and sums of the notes, and sent him to the bank to stop payment; but instead of that he went to Mr. Tufley, a silversmith in Cannon-street, bought a silver tankard, and in payment changed one of the notes for one hundred pounds which he received the day before at Sir Richard Hoare's; and on his return to his master, told him the bank did no business that day because of the
hurry

hurry the city was in on account of the fire in Cornhill, which happened the night before; he therefore went again next morning, and when he came back being asked by Mr. Hill for the paper on which he had taken down the numbers, &c. he said, he had left it with the clerks of the bank, who were to stop the notes; but that he had taken an exact copy of it; which was false, for he had reserved Mr. Hill's copy, and left another at the bank, in which he had so craftily altered the numbers and dates of the three notes he received at Sir Richard Hoare's, amounting to four hundred pounds, as to prevent their being stopped, and Mr. Hill's remembering the difference. Thus he opened a way for getting four hundred pounds into his hands without obstruction. But when it appeared that three of the notes had been falsely described, there having been none such given out by the bank, and Chandler was questioned by his master about it, and ordered to bring back the original paper, he made a pretence of going to the bank, and then brought back word, that the clerks could not find it; and said, they never kept such papers, after they had made an entry.

On the 26th, he inserted a list of his notes, being fifteen in all, with their dates and numbers, in the daily papers, offering a reward of fifty pounds for the recovery of the whole, or in proportion for any part; and on the afternoon of the same day withdrew his advertisement in all the daily papers, and took his own written copy away at each place. And on the 29th of March, 1748, he put the notice of the robbery and the description of the robbers in the London Gazette, as the law directs, except that he did not particularise the notes, as he had done in other papers.

On the 12th of May following, he made the proper information before a justice of the peace; but though Mr. Hill, his master was with him, and had undertaken to manage the cause for him, yet he made the same omission in his information, as in his advertisement in the London Gazette.

All things being prepared, on the 18th of July, 1748, Chandler proceeded to try his cause, and after a hearing of twelve hours, by a special jury at Abingdon assizes, ob-

tained a verdict for nine hundred and seventy pounds, subject, however, to a case reserved for the opinion of the Court of Common Pleas, concerning the sufficiency of the description of the bank notes in the London Gazette, and the information ; which case was afterwards decided in favour of the county.

In the mean time Chandler, fearing that by what came out upon the trial, he should soon be suspected, and that he might be arrested by Mr. Winter, who had now discovered that his mortgage was insufficient, obtained a protection from Lord Willoughby de Brooke, and gave out that he was removed into Suffolk, to reside, as he had before pretended, with his rich uncle ; but in reality, he retired to Colchester, where his brother-in-law, Humphry Smart, had taken an inn, with whom he entered into co-partnership, and never came publicly to London afterwards. He was, however, obliged to correspond with his master, on account of the point of law, which was soon to be argued ; and therefore to come at his letters, without discovering his place of abode, he ordered them to be directed, " To Mr. Thomas Chandler, at Easton, in Suffolk, to be left for him at the Crown at Audley, near Colchester, in Essex.

Mr. Hill having written several letters to Mr. Chandler, pressing him to come to town, (as the term grew near,) and he evading it by trifling excuses, began to suspect him, even before the point of law was determined.

Just before this event, twelve of the notes, of which Mr. Chandler pretended to be robbed, were all brought to the bank together, having been bought October 31, 1748, at Amsterdam, of one John Smith, by Barent Solomon, a broker there ; and by him transmitted to his son, Nathan Solomon, a broker at London. Upon further enquiry it appeared, that John Smith, who sold the notes, stayed but a few days in Holland, that he was seen in company with Mr. Casson, a Holland trader, and came over in the packet with him ; Mr. Casson was then found, and his description of John Smith answered the person of Chandler, who was then pressed, by letter, to come to town and face Casson, to remove suspicion, but he refused.

And

And now the scene began to open apace ; for about this time the very paper which Chandler left when he stopped payment of the notes at the bank, was found ; which, when Mr. Hill saw, and that it was not his writing, he quite gave up his clerk, and from that time assisted in the prosecution. By means of the bank books, they traced every circumstance that has been related of his taking out the 400l. note, afterwards changing it at Sir Richard Hoare's, for three lesser notes, his passing these notes, and by whom received ; and even his buying the tankard of Tufley ; which tankard was afterwards produced in evidence against him. All that now remained was to come at his person ; and with this view, Mr. Wise, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Casson, about Midsummer, 1749, set out for Colchester, from thence went to the Crown, at Audley, and there enquiring for Easton, were directed first to one place, and then to another of that name ; and after a fruitless journey of one hundred and fifty miles, they returned to the very inn then kept by Chandler at Colchester, and departed for London, without gaining any intelligence.

Chandler, who himself saw them at his house, immediately sold his goods, and took a small inn at Coventry, where, though one hundred and fifty miles from Colchester, and nearly ninety miles from London, he was still apprehensive of being arrested by Mr. Winter ; and therefore he sent a draft to Mr. Gauntlet, a linen-draper of his acquaintance, for one hundred and fifty pounds to be paid to Mr. Hill, and by him to Mr. Winter. This draft he procured at Northampton, and there put it into the post. By the post-mark of this letter he was at length traced to his new habitation at Coventry, where an indictment for perjury having been found against him, he was apprehended by a judge's warrant, and detained in gaol there, till by a habeas corpus he was removed to Reading, in order to take his trial at Abingdon assizes, on the 22d of July, 1750. But though the prosecutors were ready with their witnesses, at a vast expence, yet he traversed the indictment, as by law he might, and put off his trial to the last Lent assizes held at Reading ; where the facts already related being proved, he was sentenced to stand on the pillory the then next market-day, and to be

be transported for seven years. But the former part of this sentence was changed by the judge into three months imprisonment, for fear the populace, who were greatly enraged, should kill him.

[This prosecution produced two acts of Parliament, one for remedying inconveniences that may happen by proceedings in actions on the statute of Hue and Cry, and the other to render prosecutions for perjury, and subornation of perjury more easy and effectual.]

THOMAS COLLEY,

EXECUTED APRIL 24, 1751, FOR THE MURDER OF PEOPLE WHO WERE
REPUTED TO BE POSSESSED OF WITCHCRAFT.

THIS is the only case which we shall be able to present, arising out of the dregs of the superstition of witchcraft. In the days of the immortal bard, Shakespeare, this imbecility of the people was at its height. His writings, to suit the temper of the times, abound with ideal events. The scene in Macbeth, of the weired sisters, is still represented in that inimitable tragedy.

The Ghost of Hamlet's father is made a principal speaking character in that fine production; and, indeed, it is absolutely necessary to the admirable plot which the work contains.

The Tempest of the great bard has its spirits; and the Comus of Milton, its enchantment. But those times are long past; and Reason, asserting her right in the mind of man, things supernatural have long been disbelieved.

But not alone in Britain and the then separate kingdom of Scotland, did this superstition prevail; all the civilized part of Europe were tinctured with the absurdity.

By the fanatics who first inhabited New England, in America, it was planted in all its terrors; and before we proceed to give particulars of the murders it created, we shall shew that our brethren across the vast Atlantic, put each other to death, under the forms of a court of law,
founded

founded on the constitution of England, on charges of witchcraft.

The following copy of an indictment, furnished us by a friend who took it from the American court record, must prove a matter of curiosity to the reader, in the enlightened year 1809 ; and it may be the more acceptable, when he is informed, that it never before found its way to the British press :—

“ ESSEX, ff. (a town in the colony of Massachusetts Bay, in New England)

“ The jurors of our sovereign Lord and Lady, the King and Queen (King William and Queen Mary) present, that George Burroughs, late of Falmouth, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, Clerk, (a Presbyterian minister of the gospel) the ninth day of May, and divers other days and times, as well before as after, certain detestable arts, called witchcraft and sourceries, wickedly and feloniously hath used, practised, and exercised, at, and with, in the town of Salem, in the county aforesaid, in and upon, and against one Mary Walkot, single woman, by which said wicked arts, the said Mary, on the day aforesaid, and divers others days and times, as well before as after, was and is tortured, afflicted, pined, consumed, wasted, and tormented, against the peace, &c.”

The evidence, Ann Putman, deposes, that “ On the 8th day of May, 1692, I saw the apparition of George Burroughs, who grievously tormented me, and urged me to write in his book, which I refused. He then told me, that his two first wives would appear to me, presently, and tell me a great many lies, but I must not believe them. Then immediately appeared to me the forms of two women in winding sheets, and napkins about their heads ; at which I was greatly affrighted. They turned their faces towards Mr. Burroughs, and looked red and angry, and told him that he had been very cruel to them, and that their blood called for vengeance against him ; and they also told him, that they should be cloathed with white robes in heaven, when he should be cast down into hell, and he immediately vanished away. And as soon as he was gone, the women turned their faces towards me, and looked as pale as a white wall, and told me that they were Mr. Burrough's two wives, and that he had murdered

dered them. And one told me she was his first wife, and he stabbed her under the left breast, and put a piece of sealing-wax in the wound, and she pulled aside the winding-sheet, and shewed me the place. And also told me, that she was in the house, where Mr. Daris, the minister of Danvers, then lived, when it was done; and the other told me, that Mr. Burroughs, and a wife that he hath now, killed her in the vessel, as she was coming to see her friends from the eastward, because they would have one another. And they both charged me to tell these things to the magistrates, before Mr. Burrough's face; and if he did not own them, they did not know but they should appear this morning; also, Mrs. Lawson and her daughter told me, that Mr. Burroughs murdered them. This morning also, appeared to me another woman in a winding-sheet, and told me, that she was Goodman Fuller's first wife, and Mr. Burroughs killed her, because there was a difference between her husband and him. Also, the ninth day of May, during his examination, he did most grievously torture Mary Walkot, Mercy Lewis, Elizabeth Hubbard, and Abigail Williams, by pinching, pricking, and choaking them."

Upon this, and some other such evidence, was this unfortunate man condemned; and, horrible to relate, executed. Many other unhappy wretches suffered at the gallows, on similar charges!

To return to the murders in question.—We find, that not sixty years ago this superstition was not entirely eradicated in England.

But having shewn the mischief of this gross superstition in a world newly discovered, let us before we proceed upon the trial of Colley, take a slight view of the state of society in this respect, on the more enlightened continent of Europe.

We find that in the year 1562, a country woman, named Michelle Chaudron, of the little territory of Geneva, met the devil in her way from the city. The devil gave her a kiss, received a homage, and imprinted on her upper lip and on her right breast the mark which he is wont to bestow upon his favourites. This seal of the devil is a little sign upon the skin, which renders it insensible, as

we are assured by all the demonographical civilians of those times.

The devil ordered Michelle Chaudron to bewitch two young girls. She obeyed her master punctually. The parents of the two girls accused her of dealing with the devil. The girls being confronted with the criminal, declared that they felt a continual pricking in some parts of their bodies, and that they were possessed. Physicians were called, at least men who passed for physicians in those days. They visited the girls. They sought for the seal of the devil on the body of Michelle, which seal is called in the verbal process the Satanical mark. Into one of these marks they plunged a long needle, which was already no small torture. Blood issued from the wound, and Michelle testified by her cries that the part was not insensible. The judges not finding sufficient proof that Michelle Chaudron was a witch, ordered her to be tortured, which infallibly produced the proof they wanted. The poor wretch overcome by torment, confessed at last every thing they desired.

The physicians sought again for the Satanical mark, and found it in a little black spot on one of her thighs.

Into this they plunged their needle. The poor creature exhausted and almost expiring with the pain of the torture, was insensible to the needle, and did not cry out. She was instantly condemned to be burnt: but the world beginning at this time to be a little more civilized, she was previously strangled.

In the year 1748, in the bishopric of Wurtzburg, an old woman was convicted of witchcraft, and burnt. This was an extraordinary phenomenon in the eighteenth century. But how incredible it seems, that a people who boasted of their reformation, and of having trampled superstition under their feet, and who flattered themselves that they had brought their reason to perfection, is it not wonderful, I say, that such a people should have believed in witchcraft, should have burnt old women accused of this crime, and that above a hundred years after the pretended reformation of their reason?

On the 18th of April, 1751, a man named Nichols, went to William Dell, the cryer of Hemel-Hempstead,

in Hertfordshire, and delivered to him a piece of paper, with fourpence, to cry the words which were written on the paper, a copy of which is as follows:—

“This is to give notice, that on Monday next, a man and a woman are to be publicly ducked at Tring, in this county, for their wicked crimes.”

This notice was given at Winslow and Leighton-Buzard, as well as at Hemel-Hempstead, on the respective market-days, and was heard by Mr. Barton, overseer of the parish of Tring, who being informed that the persons intended to be ducked were John Osborne, and Ruth his wife, and having no doubt of the good character of both the parties, he sent them to the workhouse, as a protection from the rage of the mob.

On the day appointed for the practice of the infernal ceremony, an immense number of people, supposed to be not fewer than five thousand, assembled near the workhouse at Tring, vowing revenge against Osborne and his wife, as a wizard and witch, and demanding that they should be delivered up to their fury: they likewise pulled down a wall belonging to the workhouse, and broke the windows and their frames.

On the preceding evening the master of the workhouse, suspecting some violence from what he had heard of the disposition of the people, sent Osborne and his wife to the vestry-room belonging to the church, as a place the most likely to secure them from insult.

The mob would not give credit to the master of the workhouse that the parties were removed, but rushing into the house, searched it through, examining the closets, boxes, trunks, and even the salt-box, in search of them. There being a hole in the ceiling which appeared to have been left by the plasterers, Colley, who was one of the most active of the gang, cried out, “Let us search the ceiling.” This being done by Charles Young, with as little success as before, they swore they would pull down the house, and set fire to the whole town of Tring, except Osborne and his wife were produced.

The master of the workhouse apprehensive that they would carry their threats into execution, informed them where the poor people were concealed; on which the whole

whole mob, with Colley at their head, went to the church and brought them off in triumph.

This being done, the mob conducted them to a pond called Marlston-mere, where the man and woman were separately tied up in a cloth: then a rope was bound round the body of the woman, under her arm-pits, and two men dragged her into the pond, and through it several times; Colley going into the pond, and with a stick turning her from side to side.

Having ducked her repeatedly in this manner, they placed her by the side of the pond, and dragged the old man in, and ducked him; then he was put by, and the woman ducked again as before, Colley making the same use of his stick. With this cruelty the husband was treated twice over, and the wife three times; during the last of which, the cloth in which she was wrapped came off, and she appeared quite naked.

Not satisfied with this barbarity, Colley pushed his stick against her breast. The poor woman attempted to lay hold of it, but her strength being now exhausted, she expired on the spot. Then Colley went round the pond, collecting money of the populace for the sport he had shewn them, in ducking the old witch as he called her.

The mob now departed to their several habitations; and the body being taken out of the pond, was examined by Mr. Foster, a surgeon, and the coroner's inquest being summoned on the occasion, Mr. Foster deposed, that "on examining the body of the deceased, he found no wound either internal or external, except a little place that had the skin off, on one of her breasts; and it was his opinion that she was suffocated with water and mud."

Hereupon Colley was taken into custody, and when his trial came on, Mr. Foster deposed to the same effect as above-mentioned: and there being a variety of other strong proofs of the prisoner's guilt, he was convicted, and received sentence of death; previous to which, however, he made the following defence: "I happened to be so unfortunate as to be at Marlston-green, among other people, out of curiosity to see what the mob would do with John Osborne and his wife; where seeing that they

used them very barbarously, I went into the pond as a friend, to save her if I could ; for I knew both very well, and never had any occasion to fall out with them, but bore them good will. As for the money I collected by the pond side, it was for the great pains I had taken in the pond to save both the man and the woman."

This defence was artful enough, but as he brought no witnesses to support any part of it, the jury paid no regard to it.

After conviction this man seemed to behold his guilt in its true light of enormity. He became, as far as could be judged, sincerely penitent for his sins, and made good use of the short time he had to live in a solemn preparation for eternity. On the day before his execution he received the sacrament, and then signed the following solemn declaration, which he requested might be dispersed through the several towns and villages in the county :—

" Good people,

" I beseech you all to take warning by an unhappy man's suffering, that you be not deluded into so absurd and wicked a conceit as to believe that there are any such beings upon earth as witches.

" It was that foolish and vain imagination, heightened and inflamed by the strength of liquor, which prompted me to be instrumental (with others as mad as myself) in the horrid and barbarous murder of Ruth Osborne, the supposed witch, for which I am now so deservedly to suffer death.

" I am fully convinced of my former error, and with the sincerity of a dying man, declare that I do not believe there is such a thing in being as a witch, and pray God that none of you, through a contrary persuasion, may hereafter be induced to think that you have a right in any shape to persecute, much less endanger, the life of a fellow-creature. I beg of you all to pray to God to forgive me, and to wash clean my polluted soul in the blood of Jesus Christ, my Saviour and Redeemer.

" So exhorteth you all, the dying

" THOMAS COLLEY."

The

The day before his execution, he was removed from the gaol of Hertford, under the escort of one hundred men of the Oxford Blues, commanded by seven officers; and being lodged in the gaol of St. Alban's, was put into a chaise at five o'clock the next morning, with the hangman, and reached the place of execution about eleven, where his wife and daughter came to take leave of him; and the minister of Tring assisted him in his last moments, when he died exhibiting all the marks of unfeigned penitence.

His body was hung in chains at a place called Gubblecut, near where the offence was committed.

Still more surprising it is, to find that the dangerous absurdity of the belief in withcraft was manifest in England in the beginning of the more enlightened nineteenth century. Two ignorant and deluded people, H. Ibbelson and his wife, were committed to Wakefield house of correction, for violently assaulting and wounding E. Berry, their niece, who had been lately married.

These ignorant people having conceived the idea that the young woman had bewitched them, had formed a plan to draw blood from her, in order to dispel the charm; and meeting with her in the market-place, they both suddenly assailed her, the woman biting and scratching her, while the husband stabbed her in the body.

A MURDER,

Discovered by a Dream, in the year 1751,

IN CONSEQUENCE OF WHICH THE MURDERER WAS APPREHENDED, CONVICTED, AND EXECUTED AT WATERFORD, IN IRELAND.

AMONGST the various histories of singular dreams and corresponding events, we have just met with the account of one which deserves to be rescued from oblivion.

A more extraordinary occurrence of fortuitous events,
and

and accidental circumstances can scarcely be produced or paralleled.

One Adam Rogers, a creditable man, who kept a public house at Portlaw, a small village nine or ten miles from Waterford, in Ireland, dreamed one night that he saw two men, at a particular green spot on an adjacent mountain; one of them a sickly-looking man, the other remarkably strong and large. He then fancied that he saw the little man murder the other, and he awoke in great agitation. The circumstances of the dream were so distinct and forcible, that he continued much affected by them. He related them to his wife, and also to several neighbours, next morning. After some time he went out coursing with greyhounds, accompanied, amongst others, by one Mr. Browne, the Roman-catholic priest of the parish. He soon stopped at the above-mentioned particular green spot on the mountain, and calling to Mr. Browne, pointed it out to him, and told him what had appeared in his dream. During the remainder of the day he thought little more about it. Next morning he was extremely startled at seeing two strangers enter his house, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. He immediately ran into an inner room, and desired his wife to take particular notice, for they were precisely the two men that he had seen in his dream.

When they had consulted with one another, their apprehensions were alarmed for the little weakly man, though contrary to the appearance in the dream. After the strangers had taken some refreshment, and were about to depart, in order to prosecute their journey, Rogers earnestly endeavoured to dissuade the little man from quitting his house, and going on with his fellow-traveller. He assured him, that if he would remain with him that day, he would accompany him to Carrick next morning, that being the town to which the travellers were proceeding. He was unwilling and ashamed to tell the cause of his being so solicitous to separate him from his companion. But, as he observed that Hickey, which was the name of the little man, seemed to be quiet and gentle in his deportment, and had money about him, and that the other had a ferocious bad countenance, the dream still recurred to

to him. He dreaded that something fatal would happen, and he wished, at all events, to keep them asunder. However, the humane precautions of Rogers proved ineffectual; for Caulfield, such was the other's name, prevailed upon Hickey to continue with him on their way to Carrick, declaring that as they had long travelled together, they should not part, but remain together, until he should see Hickey safely arrive at the habitation of his friends. The wife of Rogers was much dissatisfied when she found they were gone, and blamed her husband exceedingly for not being absolutely peremptory in detaining Hickey.

About an hour after they left Portlaw, in a lonely part of the mountain, just near the place observed by Rogers in his dream, Caulfield took the opportunity of murdering his companion. It appeared afterwards from his own account of the horrid transaction, that as they were getting over a ditch, he struck Hickey on the back part of his head with a stone; and, when he fell down into the trench, in consequence of the blow, Caulfield gave him several stabs with a knife, and cut his throat so deeply, that the head was observed to be almost severed from the body. He then rifled Hickey's pockets of all the money in them, took part of his clothes, and every thing else of value about him, and afterwards proceeded on his way to Carrick. He had not been long gone, when the body, still warm, was discovered by some labourers who were returning to their work from dinner.

The report of the murder soon reached to Portlaw. Rogers and his wife went to the place, and instantly knew the body of him whom they had in vain endeavoured to dissuade from going on with his treacherous companion. They at once spoke out their suspicions that the murder was perpetrated by the fellow-traveller of the deceased. An immediate search was made, and Caulfield was apprehended at Waterford the second day after. He was brought to trial at the ensuing assizes, and convicted of the fact. It appeared on the trial, amongst other circumstances, that when he arrived at Carrick, he hired a horse, and a boy to conduct him, not by the usual road, but by that which runs on the north side of the river Suir, to

to Waterford, intending to take his passage in the first ship from thence to Newfoundland. The boy took notice of some blood on his shirt, and Caulfield gave him half-a-crown to promise not to speak of it. Rogers proved not only that Hickey was seen last in company with Caulfield, but that a pair of new shoes which Hickey wore, had been found on the feet of Caulfield when he was apprehended; and that a pair of old shoes which he had on at Roger's house were upon Hickey's feet when the body was found. He described with great exactness every article of their clothes. Caulfield, on the cross-examination, shrewdly asked him from the dock, whether it was not very extraordinary that he who kept a public-house, should take such particular notice of the dress of a stranger accidentally calling there? Rogers, in his answer, said, he had a very particular reason, but was ashamed to mention it. The court and prisoner insisting on his declaring it, he gave a circumstantial narrative of his dream, called upon Mr. Browne the priest, who was then in the court, to corroborate his testimony, and said, that his wife, had severely reproached him for permitting Hickey to leave their house, when he knew that in the short foot-way to Carrick, they must necessarily pass by the green spot in the mountain which had appeared in his dream. A number of witnesses came forward; and the proofs were so strong, that the jury without hesitation, found the panel guilty.—It is remarked, as a singularity, that he happened to be tried and sentenced by his namesake, Sir George Caulfield, at that time lord chief justice of the King's Bench, which office he resigned in the summer of the year 1760.

After sentence, Caulfield confessed the fact. It came out, that Hickey had been in the West Indies two-and-twenty years; but falling into a bad state of health, he was returning to his native country, Ireland, bringing with him some money his industry had acquired. The vessel on board which he took his passage was by stress of weather driven into Minehead. He there met with Frederick Caulfield, an Irish sailor, who was poor, and much distressed for clothes and common necessaries. Hickey, compassionating his poverty, and finding he was
his

his countryman, relieved his wants, and an intimacy commenced between them. They agreed to go to Ireland together, and it was remarked on their passage, that Caulfield spoke contemptuously, and often said, it was a pity such a puny fellow as Hickey should have money, and he himself be without a shilling. They landed at Waterford, at which place they stayed some days, Caulfield being all the time supported by Hickey, who bought there some clothes for him.

The assizes being held in the town during that time, it was afterwards recollected that they were both at the court-house, and attended the whole of a trial of a shoemaker, who was convicted of the murder of his wife. But this made no impression on the hardened mind of Caulfield, for the very next day he perpetrated the same crime on the road betwixt Waterford and Carrick-on-Suir, near which town Hickey's relations lived.

He walked to the gallows with a firm step, and undaunted countenance. He spoke to the multitude who surrounded him, and in the course of his address, mentioned that he had been bred at a charter-school, from which he was taken as an apprenticed servant by William Izod, Esq. of the county of Kilkenny.

From this station he ran away on being corrected for some faults, and had been absent from Ireland six years. He confessed also that he had several times intended to murder Hickey on the road between Waterford and Portlaw; which, though in general not a road much frequented, yet people at that time continually coming in sight, prevented him.

Being frustrated in all his schemes, the sudden and total disappointment threw him, probably, into an indifference for life. Some tempers are so stubborn and rugged, that nothing can affect them but immediate sensation. If to this be united the darkest ignorance, death to such characters will hardly seem terrible, because they can form no conception of what it is, and still less of the consequences that may follow.

*PAUL TIERNEY,**(A Traitor,)*

EXECUTED AUGUST 30, 1751, FOR ENLISTING ENGLISHMEN TO SERVE THE ENEMY.

FOR some few years after the suppression of the second Scottish rebellion, a secret trade of treachery was by many disaffected villains carried on, by enlisting men for the service of the King of France.

We have already adduced instances of the detection of this vile species of treason; and though it was well known that death would soon follow conviction: yet still we find men hardy enough to risk the consequences.

Paul Tierney was of this description. He, like Thomas Reynolds had succeeded too well; for he deluded several soldiers from their duty to their country, and secretly conveyed them to France.

At one time, on false pretences, he inveigled eight, by keeping them in a state of intoxication. At Calais he threw off the mask, gave them a livre each, and declared they were then soldiers to the King of France. The poor fellows, now sobered by their voyage, were so indignant at this duplicity and treachery, that with one accord they fell upon him, and in an instant would have beat him to death, if the captain of the French guard had not rescued him.

They were now bound with ropes, carried to Dunkirk, and were thrown into a loathsome dungeon, where they long suffered on bread and water.

One of them had the good fortune to escape, and procuring sailor's clothes, got back to England. At this time Tierney was a prisoner in Maidstone gaol, which circumstance coming to the knowledge of the much injured man, he went thither, and charged him with the crime.

On the trial it was proved that Tierney received three pounds each for the recruits, which was paid him in the presence of the prosecutor.

He was convicted, and hanged upon Penenden-heath, near Maidstone.

JAMES

JAMES WELCH and THOMAS JONES,

EXECUTED ON KENNINGTON COMMON, SEPTEMBER 6, 1751, FOR MURDER.

WE come to execute the painful task already promised, of proving the innocence of that most unhappy man, Richard Coleman, who, our readers will recollect, suffered death for the supposed murder of Sarah Green. Referring to our comments on this melancholy case, and the different cautions we have given to prosecutors, in swearing to the identity of a fellow creature, and the great care which jurymen should use in giving credit to evidence of that nature, we proceed to relate the real circumstances attending this brutal act.

Two years had passed after Coleman had been ignominiously laid in his grave, and before his memory was rescued from disgrace. Circumstances then, and not before, arose, which proved that James Welch, Thomas Jones, and John Nichols, the latter of whom admitted as evidence for the crown, committed this abhorred murder: and the discovery, without a search, so inscrutable are the ways of Providence, was thus effected:—

Welch, one of the murderers, and a young fellow named James Bush, being walking on the road to Newington Butts, their conversation happened to turn on the subject of those who had been executed without being guilty; and Welch said, “Among whom was Coleman. Nichols, Jones and I were the persons who committed the murder for which he was hanged.” In the course of conversation, Welch owned that, having been at a public-house called Sot’s-hole,* they had drank plentifully, and on their return through Kennington-lane, they met with a woman, with whom they went as far as the parsonage-walk, near the church-yard of Newington, where she was so horribly abused by Nichols and Jones, that Welch declined offering her any farther insult.

Bush did not at that time appear to pay any particular attention to what he heard; but soon afterwards, as he was crossing London-bridge with his father, he addressed

* We cannot in this narrative, avoid pausing at a publican adopting this name for his scene of drunkenness.

him as follows : “ Father, I have been extremely ill ; and as I am afraid I shall not live long, I should be glad to discover something that lays heavy on my mind.”

Hereupon they went to a public-house in the Borough, where Bush related his story to his father, which was scarce ended, when seeing Jones at the window, they called him in and desired him to drink with them.

He had not been long in company, when they told him they heard he was one of the murderers of Sarah Green, on whose account Coleman suffered death. Jones trembled and turned pale on hearing what they said ; but soon assuming a degree of courage, said, “ What does it signify ? The man is hanged, and the woman dead, and nobody can hurt us ;” to which he added, “ We were connected with a woman, but who can tell that was the woman Coleman died for ?”

In consequence of this acknowledgement, Nichols, Jones, and Welch were soon afterwards apprehended ; when all of them steadily denied their guilt ; and the hear-say testimony of Bush being all that could be adduced against them, Nichols was admitted evidence for the crown ; in consequence of which, all the particulars of the horrid murder were developed.

The prisoners being brought to trial at the next assizes for the county of Surrey, Nichols deposed that himself, with Welch and Jones, having been drinking at the house called Sot’s-hole, on the night that the woman was used in such an inhuman manner, they quitted that house in order to return home, when meeting a woman, they asked her if she would drink ; which she declined, unless they would go to the King’s-head, where she would treat them with a pot of beer.

Hereupon they went, and drank both beer and Geneva with her, and then all the parties going forward to the parsonage walk, the poor woman was treated in a manner too shocking to be described. It appeared that, at the time of the perpetration of the fact, the murderers wore white aprons : and that Jones and Welch called Nichols by the name of Coleman ; circumstances that evidently led to the prior conviction of that unfortunate man.

On the whole state of the evidence, there seemed to be
no

no doubt of the guilt of the prisoners, so that the jury did not hesitate to convict them, and sentence of death passed of course.

After conviction these malefactors behaved with the utmost contrition, being attended by the Rev. Dr. Howard, rector of St. George's, Southwark, to whom they readily confessed their offences. They likewise signed a declaration which they begged might be published, containing the fullest assertion of Coleman's innocence; and, exclusive of this acknowledgement, Welch wrote to the brother of Coleman, confessing his guilt, and begging his prayers and forgiveness.

The sister of Jones living in the service of a genteel family at Richmond, he wrote to her to make interest in his favour: but the answer he received was, that his crime was of such a nature, that she could not ask a favour for him with any degree of propriety. She earnestly begged of him to prepare for death, and implore pardon at that tribunal where alone it could be expected.

MATHIAS KEYS,

EXECUTED ON KENNINGTON COMMON, SEPTEMBER 6, 1751, FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

“ When doating mothers train up booby heirs,
Where is the cruelty can vie with theirs?
Too pert for home, too finical for school,
Ripe for his fate, out comes the finish'd fool.
Headlong where ev'ry passion leads he runs,
To wine, to women, races, dice, and duns.
Then for the road he's mounted in a trice,
And at the gallows expiates ev'ry vice.”

HERE we present another victim to idleness and dissipation. This man was the son of an innholder of good repute, at Billericáy, in Essex, who placed him apprentice to a vintner; and when his time had expired, which, however,

ever, was not passed without censure, placed him in a respectable inn at Bristol.

The house had long been well frequented, but Keys, presuming upon being a "mother's darling," was more addicted to horse-racing, cocking, and gaming, than in attending to his guests. It is therefore little to be wondered at that such men become bankrupts; and so with him, a failure soon happened.

He fled from his creditors, taking with him every portable valuable he possessed, and came to London. There, among other profligate young fellows, he became intimate with one William Russel, then an unworthy articled clerk to an attorney of good practice in Air-street, Piccadilly. In company with this reprobate he committed divers highway robberies; but the career of Russel was very short, for he was hanged ere he had attained manhood.

In the month of August, 1747, Keys was apprehended for a highway robbery, was tried, and condemned to death, at Chelmsford; but from no other crimes being then alleged against him, though he had committed many, his sentence was remitted, on condition of transporting himself for life.

On the 14th of November, 1747, he entered on board a man of war on the point of sailing to the East Indies, under Admiral Boscawen, and performed his duty with much bravery at the siege of Pondicherry, where he lost an eye. With his ship he returned to England, and immediately again commenced highwayman.

He committed a daring robbery on two gentlemen in a post-chaise, in the vicinity of London, who had pistols with them, but were taken with too much surprise to be able to use them.

No sooner had he rode off with his booty, than, with the assistance of the post-boy, they quickly unyoked the horses, and galloped after them.

Unapprehensive of pursuit, he was riding at a moderate pace, waiting to levy his contributions on the next travellers. They seized him in their turn before he could make resistance, brought him to London, prosecuted, and convicted him, having found the money upon him, of which but a few minutes before he had robbed them.

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On the same gallows with Keys, the two last-mentioned criminals suffered ; also, Henry Briant for robbing Mr. William Bates, in Chelsea Fields.

Briant was an Irishman, and, like Keys, had been a sailor in his Majesty's service ; in which capacity he had been so fortunate as to receive five hundred and sixty pounds, prize-money. With this sum he took a public house in Shoreditch, which, for some time, he attended with credit and profit. But eager to accumulate money still faster; he admitted thieves of every description into his house, and at length became the head of a daring gang, who committed robberies of every description. His character now becoming notorious, he found it necessary to give up his situation as publican, and was twenty-seven times apprehended and imprisoned in the different gaols of the metropolis before justice overtook him.

CAPTAIN JAMES LOWRY,

EXECUTED AT EXECUTION DOCK, MARCH 25, 1762, FOR MURDERING
ONE OF HIS CREW.

It is not the knowledge of navigation alone that qualifies a man to have command of a ship. When life and property are committed to the absolute control of a single individual, he to whom such trust is given should possess feeling and humanity; qualities of which Lowry appears to have been entirely divested.

This cruel man was born in Scotland, and after receiving a good school education, was, at his own earnest request, bound apprentice to a master of a vessel, to whom he served the time faithfully, and from his good conduct, soon himself became master of a ship.

He had just returned from Jamaica, with the charge of a West-India trader, when about the middle of the month of June, 1751, appeared in the daily papers, a remarkable advertisement, with ten signatures thereto, offering a reward of ten guineas for apprehending James Lowry, late master of the Molly, a merchant-ship, lately arrived from Jamaica, who was charged by ten of his crew with the

the cruel murder of Kenith Hossack, foremast-man, in his passage home, on the 24th of December last, by ordering his two wrists to be tied to the main shrouds, and then whipping him till he expired.

To this Captain Lowry replied, by charging his crew with depriving him of the command of the said ship, on the 29th of the said month, and carrying her into Lisbon, where the British consul reinstated him in his command, and he sent the ten subscribing men home prisoners ; and that he was ready to surrender when a court should be appointed for his trial, which nothing prevented him from doing immediately, but the thoughts of lying in gaol under the detestable name of an inhuman man.

The crew rejoined in another advertisement, that Lowry did not only murder the said Hossack, as appears by the affidavits of the ten subscribers, and sworn before John Russel, Esq. the British Consul at Lisbon, to be by him transmitted to the Lords of the Admiralty, but in the said passage did use Peter Bright and John Grace so cruelly that they died, and still continuing his barbarity to every man in the ship, broke the jaw-bone and one of the fingers of William Dwight, and fractured the scull of William Wham.

They admitted that they (the subscribers) had been sent from Lisbon to England by the said British Consul ; but this was done in consequence of a pretended charge of piracy sworn against them by Lowry, as the only means he had to screen himself from justice ; for the sake of which, and to deter other masters of ships from exercising the like barbarities at sea, they repeated their reward, which they deposited in proper hands, for apprehending the murderer.

These advertisements naturally excited public curiosity, and Lowry was apprehended and brought to trial at the Admiralty Sessions at the Old Bailey, on the 18th of February, 1752, for the wilful murder of Kenith Hossack.

James Gatherah, mate of the vessel, deposed, that they left Jamaica on the 28th of October, 1750, having on board fourteen hands ; that on the 24th of December, he came on deck between four and five in the afternoon, and saw the deceased tied up, one arm to the haulyards, and the other

other to the main shrouds, when the prisoner was beating him with a rope, about an inch and a half in thickness. This deponent returning again in half an hour, the deceased begged to be let down on a call of nature; the captain being now below, Gatherah obtained his permission to release him for the present, but was to tie him up again; but when let down he was unable to stand; which being made known to Lowry, he said, "D—n the rascal, he shams Abraham;" and ordered him again to be tied up. This was done, but he was not made so fast as before, which the captain observing, ordered his arms to be extended to the full stretch, and taking the rope, beat him on the back, breast, head, shoulders, face, and temples, for about half an hour, occasionally walking about to take breath.

About six o'clock he hung back his head, and appeared motionless; on which Lowry ordered him to be cut down, and said to Gatherah, "I am afraid Kenny is dead." Gatherah replied, "I am sorry for it, but hope not." Gatherah then felt his pulse; but finding no motion there, or at his heart, said, "I am afraid he is dead, indeed;" on which the captain gave the deceased a slap on the face, and exclaimed, "D—n him, he is only shamming Abraham now."

On this the deceased was wrapped up in a sail, and carried to the steerage, where Lowry whetted a penknife, and Gatherah attempted to bleed him, but without effect.

Gatherah deposed further, that the deceased had been ill of a fever, but was then recovering, and though not well enough to go aloft, was able to do many parts of his duty.

Gatherah likewise deposed to the tyranny and cruelty of the captain to the whole ship's company, except one James Stuart; and gave several instances of his inhumanity, particularly that of his beating them with a stick which he called "The Royal Oak's Foremast."

It was asked of Gatherah, why Lowry was not confined till the 29th of December, as the murder of Hossack took place on the 24th; to which he answered, that the ship's crew had been uneasy, and proposed to confine the cap-

tain ; but that he (Gatherah) represented the leaky condition of the ship, which made it necessary that two pumps should be kept going night and day ; and the ship's crew were so sickly, that not a hand could be conveniently spared ; that he believed the captain would be warned by what he had done, and treat the rest of the crew better, during the remainder of the voyage ; that Lowry could not escape while on the voyage, and that, on their arrival in England, he might be charged with the murder before any magistrate.

The seamen were satisfied by these arguments ; but Lowry continuing his severities, it was determined to deprive him of his command, and confine him to the cabin. At length the ship became so leaky, that they did not expect to live from night till morning ; and the men quitted the pumps, and took a solemn farewell of each other : but Gatherah advised them to renew their endeavours to save the vessel, and to steer for the port of Lisbon.

This advice was followed ; and having arrived off the rock of Lisbon, they hoisted a signal for a pilot, and one coming off in a fishing-boat, found that they had no product, * on which he declined conducting them into port ; but by this pilot the captain sent a letter to the British consul, informing him that the crew had mutinied : on which the consul came on board, put ten of the seamen under an arrest, and sent them to England on board a man of war, then bound homewards.

The account given by Gatherah to the consul corresponded with that he had given in evidence at the Old Bailey. During the voyage, the crew of Lowry's ship worked their passage ; and, on their arrival in England, though they were committed to the keeper of the Marshalsea-prison, yet they had liberty to go out when they pleased, and considered themselves only as evidences against Lowry.

The rest of the crew, who were examined on the trial, gave testimony corresponding with that of Gatherah ; and declared that the deceased was sober and honest. Some

* That is, they had no effects to dispose of.

questions were asked, if they thought Lowry's ill treatment was the occasion of Hossack's death. They replied "there was no doubt of it; that it would have killed him had he been in good health and strength, or the stoutest man living; and that he generally beat them with a thick oak stick, which he exultingly called his Royal Oak foremast."

It may be proper to mention that Lowry, having taken men on board to work his ship to England, arrived soon after his accusers; but they having given previous information to the lords of the admiralty, a reward was offered for apprehending him: he remained some time concealed; but at length he was discovered by a thief-taker, who took him into custody, and received ten guineas from the marshal of the admiralty.

The prisoner in his defence said, that his crew were a drunken set of fellows, that they altered the ship's course, and were mutinous; that the deceased had stolen a bottle of rum, and drank it, whereby he became intoxicated, that he tied him up to the rails to sober him, and that he flourished a rope three times round, and gave him a few strokes which could not hurt him, that he fell through drunkenness, and he did all he could to recover him.

After the evidence was recapitulated by the judge, the jury retired for about half an hour, and then delivered their verdict, that the prisoner was Guilty; on which he received sentence of death, and orders were given for his being hung in chains.

After conviction Lowry behaved with great apparent courage and resolution, till a smith came to take measure of him for his chains, when he fainted away, and fell on his bed, and was measured while insensible. On his recovery, he said that it was the disgrace of a public exposure that had affected him, and not the fear of death.

On the 25th of March, at half past nine in the morning, the unfortunate convict was brought out of Newgate, to undergo the sentence of the law; on seeing the cart which was to convey him to the gallows, he became pale, but soon recovered a degree of serenity of countenance. He had on a scarlet cloak over a morning gown, and a brown wig, of the colour of his eye-brows. His eyes

were very bright and piercing, his features regular and agreeable, and by no means evinced the cruelty of his disposition. He was, in stature, about five feet seven inches, very well proportioned, and about forty years of age. His behaviour was quite composed and undaunted. Before the cart was carried a silver oar of a very antique form.

The dreadful procession had not moved many yards before the populace began to express their indignation at the culprit. Some sailors cried out "Where is your Royal Oak's Foremast?" others vociferated, "He is shamming Abraham;" and with such tauntings and revilings was he drawn to Execution Dock; near which a number of sailors being collected, they poured execrations on his devoted head.

He was then taken out of the cart, and placed upon a scaffold under the gallows, where he put on a white cap. He prayed very devoutly with the Ordinary of Newgate, about a quarter of an hour: then giving the executioner his money and watch, the platform fell. After hanging twenty minutes, the body was cut down, put into a boat, and carried to Blackwall, and there hung in chains, on the bank of the Thames.

WILLIAM STROUD,

(A notorious Swindler,)

SIX TIMES WHIPPED THROUGH THE STREETS OF WESTMINSTER, IN THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1752.

HAD this man received sentence in Russia, his punishment would have been such as well might serve for example's sake. It is there very severe, while (through a guinea) it is often too leniently inflicted in England.

The knout of Russia would be well applied to the shoulders of an English swindler. The instrument with which whipping is inflicted in Russia is made of leather curiously twisted, and brought to a fine end like whipcord; with this whip the executioners dexterously carry off a slip of skin from the neck to the bottom of the back,
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laid bare to the waist; and, repeating their blows, in a little while rend away all the skin off the back in parallel stripes. In the common knout, the criminal receives the lashes suspended on the back of one of the executioners; but in the great knout, which is generally used on the same occasions as racking on the wheel in France, the criminal is hoisted into the air, by means of a pulley fixed to the gallows, and a cord fastened to the two wrists tied together, and another, of a crucial form, under his breast. Sometimes his hands are tied behind, over his back; and when he is pulled up in this position, his shoulders are dislocated. The executioners make this punishment more or less cruel; and it is said are so dexterous, that when a criminal is condemned to die, they can make him expire at pleasure, either by one or several lashes.

As we shall have ample room left to comment on the all-accomplished swindlers of modern times, and as no mode of thieving has so rapid a progress as this, we shall only here observe that Stroud displayed such dexterity in the infamous art, as to keep his neck out of the halter, which, in infancy of swindling, required considerable abilities.

This specious robber was well born and educated, but very early in life took to little tricks of cheating, which sufficiently marked his character. When but a school-boy, he used to purloin blank leaves from the books of his companions, and was remarkable for robbing them of their marbles.

This disposition continued while he was an apprentice; and at length he embarked in business for himself: but he had not been long a master before he considered trade as a drudgery; on which he sold off his stock, took lodgings in Bond-street, and assumed the character of a fine gentleman.

He now lived in a most expensive manner, supplying the extravagancies of women of ill-fame; which soon reducing him to indigent circumstances, he fixed on a plan of defrauding individuals; for which purpose he got credit with a tailor for some elegant suits of apparel, took a genteel house, and hired some servants, by which he imposed himself upon the public as a man of large estate.

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An extensive credit, and a splendid mode of living, were the consequence of his elegant appearance ; but some tradesmen bringing in bills which he was equally unable and unwilling to discharge, he sold off his household furniture, and privately decamped.

He now took handsome lodgings in Bloomsbury ; and, dressing himself in velvet clothes, he pretended to be the steward of a nobleman in high rank. He likewise took a house in Westminster, in which he placed an agent, who ordered in goods as for the nobleman ; and the tradesmen who delivered these goods were directed to leave their bills for the examination of the steward ; but the effects were no sooner in possession, than they were sold to a broker, to the great loss of the respective tradesmen.

Stroud used to travel into the country in summer, and having learnt the names of London traders with whom people of fortune dealt, he used to write in their names for goods ; but constantly meeting the waggons that conveyed them, generally received the effects before they reached the places to which they were directed.

It would be endless to mention all the frauds of which he was guilty. London and the country were equally laid under contribution by him : and jewellers, watch-makers, lacemen, tailors, drapers, upholders, silversmiths, silk-merciers, hatters, hosiers, &c. were frequent dupes to his artifices.

It was impossible for a man, proceeding in this manner, to evade justice. He was at length apprehended as a common cheat, and committed to the Gatehouse, Westminster. On his examination, a coach-maker charged him with defrauding him of a gilt chariot ; a jeweller of rings to the amount of a hundred pounds ; a tailor of a suit of velvet trimmed with gold ; a cabinet maker of some valuable goods in his branch ; and several other tradesmen of various articles.

The grand jury having found bills of indictment against him, he was tried at the Westminster sessions, when clouds of witnesses who had been duped and plundered by him appeared to give their evidence ; and he was instantly found Guilty.

The court sentenced him to hard labour in Bridewell for six months, and in that period to be whipped through
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the streets six times ; which was inflicted with the severity which they intended. He was scourged so as to be made an example to others in the like cases offending.

Another Fellow of the Description of Stroud.

HENRY GROVES, a Frenchman, stood in the pillory, at the Royal Exchange, on the 28th of May, 1755. He was one of the greatest cheats and swindlers that had then appeared at the Old Bailey.

He passed for a Spanish merchant, and pretended to have come from that kingdom for four or five thousand pounds worth of jewels, and three dozen gold watches ; under which pretence he defrauded several tradesmen of London, to the amount of some thousand pounds.

He was very severely treated by the mob.

A second villanous foreigner, about the same period, committed various acts of swindling, to a large amount, in London.

This fellow called himself *The Count de Nassu de Dietz*. He was at length convicted and transported.

*ELIZABETH JEFFERIES, the Murderer of her
Uncle, and JOHN SWAN, her accomplice,*

EXECUTED MARCH 5, 1752, ON EPPING FOREST.

THIS dreadful case, we are sorry to observe, exposes the vilest ingratitude, determined cruelty, and consummate hypocrisy, in a young female, which can hardly be exceeded by the most fell monster of this long and melancholy Calendar.

Strong suspicions of this murder falling upon Miss Jefferies and Swan, they were apprehended and brought to trial at Chelmsford assizes, the 12th of March, 1752.

The counsel for the crown opened the case thus : The unfortunate person deceased had been in considerable trade, and had acquired such an ample fortune as to enable

ble him to retire to Walthamstow. The only thing he wanted to complete his happiness was a child, to be the companion of his age, a partaker of his fortune while living, and an inheritor of it after his death. Accordingly he took his brother's daughter, the prisoner at the bar, used her like a parent, and left her by will almost his whole estate. He frequently mentioned this as an inducement to her to be dutiful; but when she became negligent in her behaviour, he declared his intention to alter his will, if she did not alter her conduct. This she determined to prevent by compassing his death. The other prisoner at the bar, to whom the deceased had been a very kind master, till he was offended at his familiarity with his niece, meditated this villany in conjunction with her, and they found a simple fellow, one Matthews, that Mr. Jefferies had employed, whom they thought a proper person to accomplish their villany. This man for a time rejected their proposals, till at last promises of a considerable reward staggered him, but did not produce the desired effect; for when the execution was to be performed, the favours he had received from his master obliged him to refuse it, and no threats, no abuses, or temptations whatever, could tempt him to alter his resolution.

The court then proceeded to examine witnesses, and Edward Buckle, a neighbour, being first called, deposed, that July 3, about two in the morning, he heard Miss Jefferies make an outcry; when getting up he went to her, and found her in her shift without shoe or stocking, at a neighbour's door, about twenty yards from her uncle's house, crying out, "Oh! they have kill'd him, they have kill'd him, I fear. Go, see after my uncle."* That he then desired her to go and put something about her, but she replied, "Don't mind me, see after my uncle;" he then went, and John Swan unlocking or unbolting the door on the inside, he went in, Swan saying, "Go up and see after my master, whom I fear some cruel rogues have killed." He found the deceased lying on his right side, with three wounds on the left side of his head; that then taking hold of his left hand, he said, "If you cannot

* Here she interrupted the witness, "I deny it," she said; but being told by the court, that she should be heard at a proper time, she was silent.

“speak to me, signify it to me:” that he then squeezed his hand, but did not speak. That Miss Jefferies, after some time, said to this witness, Mr. Buckle, will you go and lay information about the country of this unhappy affair? He said he would, and if, added he, I light of Matthews I’ll take him up. She replied, Mr. Buckle, don’t meddle with him, for you will bring me into trouble, and yourself too. Here Miss Jefferies interrupted the witness a second time, and said, Are you positive, look to the jury, take care what you say, you are on your oath.

Thomas Matthews already mentioned deposed, that he had worked for Mr. Jefferies nine days only for his bread; that once Miss Jefferies ordered him upstairs to wipe down a chest of drawers, that she came up just after, and said, What will you do to get one hundred pounds? He asked her what he was to do for it? she asked again if he was willing to do it? he said, Yes, in an honest way. She bid him go to John Swan in the garden, and he would tell him what it was. He went to him, when John smiled, and called him into an outhouse, and told him that if he would knock that old miser, his master, on the head, he would give him 700*l.* and Miss Jefferies heard all; she said she would see the money paid, and that she should not have a moment’s peace while that miser was living; that after he was discharged from Mr. Jefferies, Swan shewed him the pistols he said he had bought to shoot his master, as he took a walk in the evening; that he once gave him half a guinea to buy a case of pistols to shoot Mr. Jefferies as he came home from Chelsea with one Mr. Gallant; but instead of buying the pistols he went to the Green Man at Low Layton, and spent the money; they had several interviews, and at last he agreed to come on Tuesday, July 2*d*, at about ten at night to the backside of Mr. Jefferies’s garden, and Swan would give him some money to knock the old miser on the head, in the hearing of Miss Jefferies; he accordingly came to the garden, and thence into the pantry, where he stood behind a tub, till Swan came to him, and gave him some cold beef. Both Swan and Miss Jefferies came to him about twelve o’clock, and said, Now’s the time to knock your master on the head; he said, he could not find in his

heart to do it ; on which Miss Jefferies damned him for a villain because he would not perform his promise ; and Swan damned his blood, and pulling a book out of his pocket made him swear not to discover what had passed, otherwise he would blow his brains out ; and this witness said he would not, except he was in danger of his life. They then parted and went up stairs, and half an hour afterwards he hearing a pistol go off, hasted out of the house the backway. Being asked whether he promised to commit the murder, he said he did, near Walthamstow church, and that Swan said, “ If this witness would not do it, by G—d he or somebody must do it, for Miss Jefferies was big with child, and if the old miser should know it, they should be both banished the house.”

Mr. Forbes, surgeon, deposed that he observed Mr. Jefferies's wounds, and the blood about the floor ; that he examined the wounds, and found two, one with a gun or pistol on the left side of his face, and the other by a knife, which he took to be mortal, it being a stab in the ear of about four inches deep ; there was a knife on the floor with a sharp point. He added, that Swan had a clean shirt on that morning.

Sarah Arnold, maid servant, deposed that the night before Mrs. Martin and her children supped at her master's, when John Swan waited at table ; between eleven and twelve o'clock Swan and Miss Jefferies went out and returned in a quarter of an hour, when John Swan, who was pretty much in liquor, went to bed without asking leave, and Miss Jefferies coming in, pressed her uncle in a very particular manner, to go to bed, and the company to go away ; and half an hour after her master was in bed, she went up stairs, having first by her master's orders fastened all the doors ;—that they had cold boiled beef in the house, that Miss Jefferies lay in a room divided from her uncle's by a very thin partition, which had a hole in it, and Swan lay on the same floor. That about three o'clock she heard an alarm, and looking out of the window, saw Miss Jefferies in the yard ; when calling to Swan, and asking where her master was, he said he believed he was a-bed and murdered ; she then run directly into her master's chamber and found him on his back,
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his legs drawn up, and rattling in the throat, and putting her hand on his wounds found the blood quite congealed; on the floor, by the bedside, lay her master's knife, which the day before had been left on the bench at the garden door; she afterwards saw the pistol, which having burst into several pieces they were taken out of bed; she found the back door open that goes into the yard, but did not observe that the house had been broken open; one of the pistols that used to hang over the fire-place in the kitchen was also gone, and some chips of the bullets lay about the kitchen floor. Being asked whether she had observed any disagreement between her master and Miss Jefferies, she replied that her master did not like her so often conversing with Swan, as people took notice of it; he was displeased at her manner of life, and threatened to turn her out of doors. She heard him tell Mrs. Martin, in Miss Jefferies's hearing, that he would alter his will, and make Joe Martin his heir, though she had before heard him say that all he had in the world was hers. When her master threatened her she seemed to be uneasy; but she never heard her make him any answer.—Being asked if she knew where her master's will used to be kept, she said in a little box in an iron chest by his bedside, and that box was gone that very morning.

Elizabeth Gallant deposed, that in about an hour and half after she came, which was soon after the murder, Miss Jefferies called to Mrs. Buckle, to go into Mr. Jefferies's room, take the box of writings, carry them into her room, lock the door, and bring her the key.

Jeffery Mead deposed, that he looked about the house, and saw only the bar of one window at the back door bent, but the lead as regularly untwisted, as if by a glazier, and that he apprehended it was done by some of the family; that he desired John Swan to give him a rake, and shew him the pond, where they might make a search, and in searching they found a new sack with some pewter and brass in it. When Miss Jefferies was apprehended, this witness said, she hoped they would not use her ill, for she had given Mr. Smart a five hundred pound bank note that day; and, said she, to let all the world know that Mr. Jefferies did not lose his life to wrong Mrs.

Martin's children (putting her hand into her bosom, and pulling out a one hundred pound bank-note,) here, Mrs. Martin, I give you this for you and your children.

Richard Clark deposed that between two and three he heard the outcry, Murder ! Fire ! Thieves ! and saw Miss at the window over the door, and Swan in the court ; Miss said, " Make all the haste you can, for there are thieves in the house, and I am afraid my uncle is murdered." Swan said, he believed they got in at the window, and out at the door backwards ; but on examining the window and door he found nothing broke, nor the least track of feet in the garden, though it was a dewy morning ; he deposed farther, that about a quarter of a year before the murder, Swan called on him to take a walk to fetch a horse, and that coming back by my Lord Castlemain's he asked him if he were a hearty man, sufficient to shoot any thing ? to which he answered, that he was no sportsman ; and could not shoot well ; when Swan said, if he was, he could help him to fifty pounds and a horse to ride on.

John Ball gave evidence that he went into the room with Mr. Tipping, the apothecary, and drew near to Mr. Jefferies, and said to him, " My dear Sir, I am sorry to see this ; if you think you know who did it, hold up your hand : " with that he held up his left hand, dropping out of it a handkerchief with which he had been dabbing his wounds.

The prisoners being called upon to make their defence, Miss Jefferies said, she concluded that most of them were perjured, and that she left her cause to her counsel ; but John Swan called witnesses.

First, Elizabeth Diaper deposed that she lived a few yards from Mr. Jefferies, and was alarmed that morning by Miss Jefferies, who cried, " Diaper, Diaper, for God's sake come, there are rogues in the house, and they are going to set it on fire." When she came, the maid was sitting on the garret window with her right thigh on the window board, and her hand on her thigh, saying, There are thieves in the house ; she raised the street, and coming to the gate, saw Miss Jefferies, and Mrs. Buckle ; she asked Miss Jefferies how she got out ? she said out of the window,

window, and called out, " See where my uncle is. Oh ! for God's sake, my uncle and Joe Martin." John Swan opened the door, and came out directly.

Here this witness fainting was obliged to be carried out of court.

John Diaper, her husband, added to what his wife had said, that taking the alarm and hastening, he saw Miss Jefferies half way out of window before he went down stairs ; being asked the height of the window above ground, he said, between ten and eleven feet, with a covering over the door called a pent-house, about five feet from the ground ; he hasted down stairs, took a bill, and going to the door, turned about, and saw Miss Jefferies standing at his door in her shift barefooted, and very much affrighted. Being asked by the prisoner's counsel whether her terror seemed to be real ? he said, he did believe her to be really affrighted. The prisoner's counsel asking how did Swan appear to be ? he said, very much affrighted, and crying he had rather have died with his master. Asked again whether the linen of Swan or Miss Jefferies were bloody ? he said no ; or whether they were clean ? he said they seemed to have been lain in, neither being clean.

Miss Jefferies fainted away at this time, and continued in convulsions near forty minutes.

Elizabeth Diaper being recovered, was brought again into court, and confirmed the former evidence, as to the shirt and shift of the prisoners being free from blood, and said further that she generally nursed Mr. Jefferies in his illness, and observed Miss very kind to him ; and that John Swan had often fetched Mr. Jefferies home from Chelsea, the forest, and elsewhere at all hours.

Mary Buckle, who lived in the same court with Mr. Jefferies, deposed that on Wednesday morning between two and three o'clock, she heard a calling out, I am afraid the house is on fire. When she came into the court, Miss Jefferies was falling from the window ; she asked her the reason, and was answered, Don't mind me, seek after my uncle, some men are gone down stairs, crying, " Damnation to the old rogue, we have done all the mischief we could, and now we'll set the house on fire."

Catherine

Catherine Griffiths said, she heard the alarm, and when Miss Jefferies came into the room, she said, "Dear uncle, if you can speak, speak to me; if you know me, make motions," and he made none; that he died at eight or nine in the evening, while Miss Jefferies was in the room.

Robert Clifton, apothecary, deposed that John Swan came to him about ten in the morning, and desired him to hasten, for he feared his master was murdered; that Miss Jefferies asked if any help could be had in London, if there could she desired he might have it; that a surgeon there imagined he might be dead before any help could come; that he really believed the hand which discharged the pistol must be wounded by the bursting of it, that John Swan was not wounded, and therefore he thought he did not discharge the pistol; and that he had frequently taken Mr. Jefferies out at the request of Miss, that she might receive or pay a visit; that if John Swan were inclined to hurt his master, he had many better opportunities, when he often came home with him in dark nights, that he once fell off his horse's neck into a pond, and Swan saved him, for which he was always kind to him.

The counsel for the prosecution then observed, that the pistol being a long one, as appeared from the length of the rammer, produced in court, and also the shattered remains of the pistol, and that part where the lock was fixed being entire, the hand that discharged it might not be hurt.

Being asked by the king's counsel, if he had not received a sum of money from the prisoner that morning? said, his son had received a twenty pound note, in part of a former debt of twenty-two pounds for goods sold and delivered.

Sir Samuel Gower witnessed, that he had Matthews under examination four or five times before him, and Mr. Bateman and Mr. Quarrel; that he gave different accounts, and that this witness told him, that he could put no confidence in his evidence, he prevaricated so much; that he suffered him to sign two of his examinations, and when any thing was said of murdering Mr. Jefferies, he always said, he was offered money to do it.

Mr. Quarrel deposed that Matthews differed in the latter

latter part of his account ; but as to his saying he was hired, he kept to that all the time of his examination.

J. Warriner deposed, that on Matthews's first examination, he said he knew nothing of the murder, nor did he hear of it before he was taken ; at his second examination he contradicted himself, and said, what he told before was a lie. This witness being desired to go into another room to take his confession, did so, and confessed that he was hired, and was to have 700*l.* for the murder.

The prisoners making no farther defence, nor speaking a word in their own behalf, the Judge, after summing up the evidence, observed, that though the principal evidence might be represented as prevaricating in some particulars, yet when his evidence was corroborated by so many other strong evidences it could not be disputed.

The jury then retired, and after staying about an hour, brought in the prisoners—" Guilty."

The Confession of Elizabeth Jefferies, concerning the murder of her uncle Joseph Jefferies, after she received sentence of death.

" I, Elizabeth Jefferies, do freely and voluntarily confess, That I first enticed and persuaded John Swan and Thomas Matthews to undertake and perpetrate the murder of my deceased uncle, which they both consented to do, the first opportunity. That, on the third day of July, 1751, myself and John Swan, (Matthews, to my knowledge, not being in the house,) agreed to kill my said uncle : and accordingly, after the maid was gone to bed, I went into John Swan's room, and called him, and we went down together into the kitchen, and having assisted Swan in putting some pewter and other things, into a sack, I said I could do no more, and then I went into my room ; and afterwards Swan came up, as I believe, and went into my uncle's room, and shot him : which done, he came to my door and rapped. Accordingly, I went out in my shift, and John Swan opened the door, and let me out : That done, I alarmed the neighbourhood. And I do

I do solemnly declare that I do not know that any person was concerned in the murder of my deceased uncle, but myself and John Swan ; for that Matthews did not come to my uncle's house, the day before, or night in which the murder was committed, as I know of.

“ ELIZABETH JEFFERIES.”

Taken and acknowledged, March 12, 1742.

Miss Jefferies fainted under the gallows, and was not recovered, when she was launched into eternity. Her body was delivered to her friends, but that of Swan was hung in chains, in another part of the forest.

NICHOLAS MOONY and JOHN JONES,

EXECUTED AT BRISTOL, MAY 24, 1752, FOR HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

THERE was somewhat of a noble mind in the character of Moony, though he suffered for an ignoble action. Many of the unfortunate men whose career we trace to an untimely end, have possessed hearts worthy of a better fate. Juvenile indiscretions have paved the way to enormities ; and to support an ill-acquired habit, they have been driven to commit crimes, at which their minds have revolted. Melancholy, indeed, are our pictures of such men ; and if our drawings could but save one single youth from wandering into the road to ruin, our labours would be gratified in mental retrospection.

The exposition of crimes and punishments goes to this end, and the editors sincerely hope that their comments will strike abhorrence in each reader against the violation of the laws, both of God and man.

Nicholas Moony and John Jones were condemned at Bristol, for a highway robbery. When brought to the bar, to receive sentence of death, Moony, who during the trial had pleaded for his fellow culprit Jones, thus addressed the Judge :

“ My Lord,

“ My Lord,

“ Permit me, again, to entreat for John Jones, whom I have inveigled and drawn into this trouble (as I have done many others before) that your Lordship will be pleased to spare his life.

“ As to my own part, I have committed many robberies, and have been a rebel against my king, and have wronged my country, by coining money for which I can never make the public restitution, and therefore I am content to die, as I deserve.

“ I pray God to bless every one to whom I have done any wrong, and if there be any gentlemen of Bristol here, whom I have injured, I heartily ask their forgiveness, and more especially Mr. Washborough, (who stood near to the penitent culprit,) whom I attempted to murder, but God saved his life, for which I can never praise him enough.”

“ My Lord,

“ I desire only three Sundays, and after that time has elapsed, I am willing to launch into eternity, and I hope, when I come to the place of execution, that God will open my mouth to warn all against my wicked course of life. I pray God to bless your Lordship, and this honourable Court, and may the Lord Jesus receive my soul !”

On the 24th of May (three Sundays having passed since sentence was pronounced) Nicholas Mooney, John Jones, and William Cudmore, for returning from transportation before the time of his sentence had elapsed, were brought out of prison for execution.

When arrived at the fatal tree, Mooney, in a pathetic manner, warned the surrounding multitude against deviating from the paths of rectitude, and warned them by his untimely fate.

He left a letter to a gentleman who had been kind to him, in the following words :

“ Sir,

“ Before I die, I take this opportunity of acknowledging your kindness to me in times past. Oh ! that I had de-

served it ; for then I had not brought myself into these circumstances. But God is wise, and seeing that I do not hear his voice, and turn from my wicked life, he gave me up to my own heart's lust, and permitted me to fill up the measure of my iniquity, that in me at last should be shewn the severity of his justice.

“ You took me, the most abandoned wretch, for an honest man ; and, as such, you kindly and generously recommended me where I might have done well—it is my own fault I did not. On Friday I am to meet the fate my crimes too justly deserve. I merit not only death, but hell ; to the former man has doomed me ; from the latter, Christ, I hope, will save me. Oh ! the riches of his mercy in Jesus Christ, who has made my prison as a palace, my chains as ornaments, and I am quite happy. I hope every one will pray for me, that my faith fail not. I am longing for death, and in firm expectation of a glorious resurrection to eternal life.

“ Your most obliged and dying servant,

“ N. MOONEY.”

When his irons were taken off, he smiling, said, “ Death has no sting for me,” and when released from this incumbrance, he ejaculated, “ I have got rid of the chain of my sins ;” and he appeared cheerful. When the executioner put the rope about his neck, he said, “ Welcome halter, I am saved as the thief upon the cross ;” coming to the fatal tree, his expression was, “ Welcome gallows, for I have deserved thee many years.”

The executioner was about to tie up Jones ; but, with much earnestness, Mooney exclaimed, “ Tie me up first, for I am the greatest sinner ;” and then said, “ As the breath leaves my body, from my sincere repentance, I am confident I shall go to heaven.” So saying, and we trust his words were verified, with the two other unfortunate men, he yielded up his life ; all of them hoping forgiveness in that to come.

“ Parent of nature ! Master of the world !

“ Where'er thy Providence directs, behold

“ My

" My steps with cheerful resignation turn,
 " Fate leads the willing, drags the backward on.
 " Why should I grieve, when grieving I must bear?
 " Or take with guilt, what guiltless I might share?

THE DARING BURGLARY,

Committed in the House of Mr. PORTER, of the Raiké Farm House, near Chester, by M'CANNELLY, MORGAN, STANLEY, BOYD, and NEILL, Irish Haymakers, for which the two first were executed on the 25th of May, 1752.

As the time of harvest approaches, numbers of the lowest order of Irish come over to the nearest counties in England, to offer themselves for hire, in getting in the hay and crops of corn, where they receive better wages, and live better than in their own country. They would prove of infinite service, could they be kept to common honesty, but generally are a wild, ferocious, and knavish set, mix among the industrious and honest, for the purpose of plundering their employers.

The many depredations committed during the gathering of the harvest, more than at other seasons, leaves little doubt of this fact; and farmers are therefore become extremely cautious whom they hire.

Mr. Porter, a wealthy farmer of Cheshire, had engaged a number of these people, in the year 1752, in his harvest fields. One evening his house was beset by the gang above-mentioned, who forcibly broke open his doors, advanced to him while at his supper-table, seized, and bound him with cords, at the same time, with horrid threats, demanding his money.

They also seized his eldest daughter, pinioned her, and obliged her to shew them where her father's money and plate were deposited. In the confusion, the youngest daughter, a heroic little girl of thirteen years of age, made her escape, ran into the stable, got astride the bare back of a horse, only haltered, but not daring to ride past the house, beset by the rogues, she galloped over the fields, leaping hedges and ditches, to Pulford, to inform her eldest brother of the danger that was at the village. He,

and a friend named Craven, determined on attacking the villains, and for that purpose set off at full speed, the little girl accompanying them.

On entering his paternal roof, the son found one of the villains on guard, whom he killed so instantaneously that it caused no alarm. Proceeding to the parlour, they found the other four, in the very act of setting his father on the fire, after robbing him of fourteen guineas, in order to extort more. They had stripped down his breeches to his feet, and his eldest daughter was on her knees, supplicating for his life.

What a sight was this for a son ! Like an enraged lion, and backed by his brave friend, he flew upon them. They fired two pistols, and wounded both the father and the son, and a servant boy whom they had also bound, but not so as to disable them, for the son wrested a hanger from one of them, cleft the villain to the ground, and cut the others.

The eldest daughter having unbound her father, the old man united his utmost efforts by the side of his son and friend ; and so hard did they press, that the thieves jumped through a window, and ran off.

The young men pursued, and seized two more on Chester bridge, who dropped a silver tankard. The fifth got on board a vessel at Liverpool, of which his brother was the cook, and bound for the West Indies ; which sailed, but was driven back by adverse winds.

The account of the robbery, with the escape of the remaining villain, having reached Liverpool, a King's boat searched every vessel, and at length found the robber, by the wounds he had received, and sent him in fetters to Chester gaol.

Mr. Porter had a servant man in the house at the time, a countryman of the robbers, who remained an unconcerned spectator, and afterwards running away, was also sent to prison, charged with being an accomplice. They were brought to trial at Chester assizes, in March, 1752, and condemned.

Boyd, on account of his youth, and his having endeavoured to prevail upon the others not to murder Mr. Porter,

ter, had his sentence of death remitted for transportation.

The hired servant of Mr. Porter was not prosecuted.

On the Thursday previous to the day fixed for execution, Stanley slipped off his irons, and changing his dress, escaped out of gaol, and got clear off.

On the 25th of May, 1752, M'Cannelly and Morgan were brought out of prison, in order to be hanged. Their behaviour was as decent as could be expected from such men. They both declared that Stanley, who escaped, was the sole contriver of the robbery.

They died in the Catholic faith, and were attended by a priest of that persuasion.

THOMAS WILFORD,

A Cripple, yet the Murderer of his Wife,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, ON THE 22D DAY OF JUNE, 1752.

IN this malefactor, a wretch of the most depraved and low class of the metropolis, we find the passion of love enflamed by the "green-eyed monster" into jealousy; which, as in greater men, knowing no bounds, works up the mind to madness and desperation. The murder, in such instances, of the fair, and too often the frail, partner of the heart generally ensues.

The jealous subject of our narrative was born of very poor parents, at Fulham in the county of Middlesex; and coming into the world with only one arm, he was received into the workhouse, where he was employed in going of errands for the paupers, and occasionally for the inhabitants of the town; and he was distinguished by his inoffensive behaviour.

A girl of ill-fame, named Sarah Williams, being passed from the parish of St. Giles in the Fields to the same workhouse, had art enough to persuade Wilford to marry her, though he was then only seventeen years of age; and their inclinations being made known to the churchwardens,

dens, they gave the intended bride forty shillings, to enable her to begin the world.

The young couple now went to the Fleet, and were married: after which they took lodgings in St. Giles's; and it was only on the Sunday succeeding the marriage that the murder was perpetrated. On that day, the wife having been out with an old acquaintance, staid till midnight; and on her return Wilford, who was jealous of her conduct, asked her where she had been. She said to the Park, and would give him no other answer; a circumstance that inflamed him to such a degree, that a violent quarrel ensued; the consequence of which was fatal to the wife; for Wilford's passions were so irritated, that he seized a knife, and she advancing towards him, he threw her down, and kneeling on her, cut her throat, so that her head was almost severed from her body.

He had no sooner committed the horrid deed, than he threw down the knife, opened the chamber door, and was going down stairs, when a woman, who lodged in an adjacent room, asked who was there; to which Wilford replied, "It is me, I have murdered my poor wife, whom I loved as dearly as my own life."

On this the woman went down to the landlord of the house, and was immediately followed by Wilford, who said he had killed the woman that he loved beyond all the world, and was willing to die for the crime he had committed; and he did not make the slightest effort to escape.

On this the landlord called the watch, who, taking Wilford into custody, confined him for that night, and on the following day he was committed to Newgate by Justice Fielding.

Being arraigned on the first day of the following sessions at the Old Bailey, he pleaded guilty; but, the court refusing to record his plea, he was put by till the last day, when he again pleaded guilty; but was prevailed on to put himself on his trial.*

* Much praise is due to the humanity of the judges, who frequently prevail on a prisoner to retract his first plea of guilty; which very prisoner has been acquitted on his second arraignment.

Accordingly

Accordingly the trial came on ; during which the prisoner did not seek to extenuate the crime of which he had been guilty : on the contrary his penitent behaviour and flowing tears seemed to testify the sense he entertained of his offence. Every person present seemed penetrated with grief for his misfortunes.

The case of this malefactor has been the rather inserted, because he was the first that suffered in consequence of an act that passed in the year 1751, for the more effectual prevention of murder, which decrees that the convict shall be executed on the second day after conviction : for which reason it has been customary to try persons charged with murder, on a Friday ; by which indulgence, in case of conviction, the execution of the sentence is necessarily postponed till Monday ; and by the same act it is ordained, that the convicted murderer shall be either hung in chains or anatomized.

The jury having found Wilford guilty, sentence against him was pronounced in the following terms: Thomas Wilford, you stand convicted of the horrid and unnatural crime of murdering Sarah your wife. This court doth adjudge, that you be taken back to the place from whence you came ; and there to be fed on bread and water till Wednesday next, when you are to be taken to the common place of execution, and there hanged by the neck until you are dead ; after which your body is to be publicly dissected and anatomized, agreeable to an act of Parliament in that case made and provided ; and may God Almighty have mercy on your soul!"

Both before and after conviction, Wilford behaved as a real penitent, and at the place of execution he exhibited the most genuine signs of contrition for the crime of which he had been guilty.

MOSES MORAVIA and JOHN MANOURY,

(Two Jews, Conspirators in sinking a Ship,)

CONVICTED AT THE OLD BAILEY, JUNE 27, 1752.

SHIP insurers, about this time, were greatly defrauded by conspiracies of villains to sink vessels, in order to come upon the underwriters; a similar offence to a man's setting his house on fire, in order to cheat the fire-office.

It was usual for those who practised the imposition upon ship insurers, to purchase goods, pay for them, get them on board, and in the night time take them clandestinely out of the ship, and dispose of them for what they would bring. Thus, when they had sunk the ship, they could produce receipts for the goods, and the shipping papers for the same; upon which the insurers were compelled to pay the amount.

This was precisely the crime proved upon these Jews, who, conspiring with one Samuel Wilson, who died before his trial came on, and Captain Misson, commander of the ship Elizabeth and Martha, sunk that fine ship at sea, in order to defraud the underwriters. Misson absconded, and a reward of fifty pounds was offered for apprehending him; but we are sorry at not finding that he was ever brought to justice.

Moravia and Manoury were arraigned for this offence, at the Bar of the Old Bailey, on the 27th of June, 1752, and, after a long trial, found guilty.

Solomon Carolina, another Jew, was tried with them, as an accomplice; but the proof not fully reaching him, he was acquitted.

They were sentenced to a year's imprisonment in Newgate, and in that time to stand on the pillory, once on Tower-hill, and once at the Royal Exchange; to pay a fine of twenty pounds each, and to find securities for their good behaviour for five years, themselves in 200*l.* each, and such other securities as the court might require.

In undergoing the punishment of the pillory, though the mob handled them according to their deserts, yet we cannot

cannot relinquish the idea we have formed, that a halter was their due.

We have seen that Captain Lowry was hanged for the same crime, and though he commanded his ship when he sunk her, yet accomplices are by the law considered as principals in the crime committed.

ANN WHALE, strangled and then burnt, for the murder of her husband ; and SARAH PLEDGE, hanged for being her accomplice, August 14, 1752, at Horscham, in Sussex.

IN every horrid case which we have hitherto adduced, some sordid motive is apparent for the commission of this very worst of murders. But here we can trace none—no hatred to her husband—no lustful appetite to satisfy by criminal means—no third of her husband's worldly possessions prompted her to the wicked deed. We cannot admit that a *woman* can have such influence over a *woman*, as to persuade her to murder her husband ! especially a sober and affectionate husband !

The wretched woman appears to have been seduced by the Serpent, with much greater facility than our first mother. She was tempted by an apple ; but this degenerate daughter appears to have been actuated by no motive, unless, indeed, to gratify her faithless friend's lurking revenge, in shedding the blood of her innocent husband, can be admitted in extenuation.

Ann Whale was born of respectable parents, at Horscham, in Sussex ; but her father dying in her infancy, she was left to the care of her mother.

Early in life she gave evidence of an uncontrollable disposition, and having a dispute with her mother, she wandered into the country, and associated with people of bad character ; but her mother, in order to save her from ruin, at length prevailed on her to return home.

Soon after this, she was addressed by a sober young man, named James Whale ; and as a relation had lately

left her a legacy of eighty pounds, payable when she was of age, and the mother readily consenting to their alliance, the marriage took place.

They had not been long wedded, when they went to reside at a place called Steepwood; but soon returning to Horsham, they took up their residence in the house of Sarah Pledge, who was distantly related to Mrs. Whale.

A short time after their abode here, a misunderstanding happening between the women, Mr. Whale forbade Mrs. Pledge to come into his apartment; a circumstance that only tended to foment the quarrel.

Soon afterwards, however, the women were privately reconciled; and, as the man was remarkably sober, and they were of opposite characters, it is the less to be wondered at, that they sought the means of his destruction.

Mrs. Whale having lain-in, and being tolerably recovered, Mrs. Pledge took the advantage of her husband's absence, to come into her room, when she said, "Nan, let us get rid of this devil!" (meaning Mr. Whale.) The wife said, "How can we do it?" To which the other replied, "Let us give him a dose of poison."

The abandoned woman too readily consented to this horrid proposal; and the only difficulty which appeared to arise was, how the poison should be procured.

They first attempted their horrid purpose by roasting spiders, and putting them into his beer; but, finding this did not produce the effect, Mrs. Pledge undertook to purchase something more efficacious, and for that purpose went to several market towns; but as she went into each apothecary's shop, she either saw, or fancied she saw, some person who knew her, or that her conscience interposed. At length she went to an apothecary* at Horsham to whom she was a stranger; but was still afraid, though she made the purchase.

* It is curious to reflect on this sordid, not to give him a harsher name, son of Galen. Through the workings of a wicked mind, which ever overcasts the countenance, could this seller of poison have no suspicion of an intent to put the death-powder to a fatal use? Or was the profit of a *single penny* sufficient to induce him to put into the hands of a mean, ignorant, strange woman, the speedy and secret means of death?

Hastening

Hastening to her more wicked friend, she gave her the bane, and who, with equal dispatch, administered it ; for at the moment her husband was fondling their child, on whom he doted, she mixed it in some hasty-pudding, preparing for his supper. Unsuspicious, the affectionate, but unfortunate man, eat—was soon seized with the racking torments occasioned by that corrosive mineral, and the next day expired ; but the neighbours suspecting that his death was occasioned by some sinister arts, a surgeon examined the body, and the coroner's jury being summoned, brought in a verdict of “ Wilful murder.”

Hereupon Mrs. Whale and Mrs. Pledge being taken into custody, and carried before a magistrate, the latter wished to become evidence ; but being separately examined, and both confessing the fact, they were committed to Horsham gaol.

On their trials, the confessions which they had signed were read, and some corroborative evidence arising, they were convicted, and received sentence of death.

For some time after conviction, Mrs. Pledge behaved in the most hardened manner, making use of profane expressions, and declaring that she would fight with the hangman at the place of execution. On the contrary, Mrs. Whale acknowledged the justice of the sentence which had condemned her, and gave evident signs of her being a real penitent.

On the evening preceding their execution, the clergyman, who attended them, brought Mrs. Pledge into a better state of mind, and then administered the sacrament to both the convicts.

An immense crowd attended at the place of execution, where Pledge was hanged ; and Whale, being tied to a stake, was first strangled, and then burnt to ashes, in the twenty-first year of her age.

We find another shocking instance of revenging injuries done by one person on the body of another, in the case of Rachel Beauchamp. This wretch having quarrelled with another woman, her neighbour, and not being able to obtain of her the satisfaction she thirsted for, industriously inveigled the child of her antagonist, a beautiful little girl,

girl, of four years of age, and cut its throat ! For this unprovoked murder she was hanged at Tyburn, the 13th day of January, 1752.

CAPTAIN PETER DE LA FONTAINE,

CONDEMNED TO DIE, FOR FORGERY, BUT AFTERWARDS TRANSPORTED,
IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1752.

THE following short sketch of this artful and daring foreigner would furnish incident for a novel or a romance.

De La Fontaine was born of noble parents in France, and received a military education, and served at the siege of Phillipsburgh, under the duke of Berwick.

The campaign being ended, he went to Paris, where a gentleman invited him to spend some time at his country seat, when he fell in love with his daughter, who wished to marry him ; but the father interposing, she eloped with her lover, and they lived a considerable time as married people, at Rouen.

On their return to Paris the young lady lodged in a convent ; but De la Fontaine appearing in public, some officers of justice, seeing him in a coffee-house, told him they had the king's warrant for apprehending him : on which he wounded two of them with his sword ; notwithstanding which he was siezed, and lodged in prison.

On this he wrote to the young lady, telling her he was obliged to go into the country on urgent business, but would soon return ; and, having made an interest with the daughter of the keeper of the prison, she let him out occasionally, to visit his mistress.

Being brought to trial for running away with an heiress, he would have been capitally convicted, agreeably to the laws of France, but that the young lady voluntarily swore that she went off with him by her own consent. But soon after his acquittal, she was seized with the pains of labour, and died in child-bed.

Soon afterwards De la Fontaine went again into the army, and behaved so bravely at the battle near Kale, that
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the Duke of Berwick rewarded his courage, with the commission of lieutenant of grenadiers.

A young lady of Stratzburgh, who had fallen in love with De la Fontaine, at Paris, before his former connection, now obtained a pass from the Marshal de Bellisle, and being introduced to the Duke of Berwick, told him she wished to see De la Fontaine; and the duke, judging of the cause, ordered her to be conducted to him.

On the following day she went to the duke, dressed in men's cloaths; and, begging to enter as a volunteer in the same regiment with De la Fontaine, she was indulged for the novelty of the humour. She went through the regular duties of a soldier, and reposed in the same tent with her paramour; but, in the winter following the campaign, she died of the small-pox, leaving a part of her fortune to her lover.

The duke of Berwick being killed at the siege of Philipsburgh, De la Fontaine made the tour of Europe; but, returning to Paris, he fought a duel with an officer, who being dangerously wounded, our hero repaired to Brest, and embarked as lieutenant of marines on board a vessel bound for Martinico.

The ship being taken by a Turkish corsair, was carried into Constantinople, where De La Fontaine was confined in a dungeon, and had only bread and water for his sustenance. While in this situation he was visited by another prisoner, who had more liberty than himself, and who advised him, as the French consul was then absent, to apply to a Scotch nobleman then in the city, who was distinguished for his humane and generous feelings.

De la Fontaine having procured pen, ink, and paper, with a tinder-box to strike a light, (all by the friendship of his fellow-prisoner,) sent a letter to the nobleman, who had no sooner read it than he hurried to the cells, to visit the unfortunate prisoner.

Having promised his interest to procure his enlargement, he went to the Grand Vizier, and pleaded his cause so effectually, that De la Fontaine was released, and went immediately to thank the Vizier, who wished him happy, and presented him with a sum of money.

Hence our adventurer sailed to Amsterdam, where
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having a criminal connection with a lady, who became pregnant, he embarked for the Dutch settlement of Curassoe; but, finding the place unhealthy, he obtained the governor's permission to go to Surinam, and continued above five years on that island.

While in this place the governor invited him to a ball, where one of the company was a widow lady of rank, of whom he determined, if possible, to make a conquest; nor did he long fail of an opportunity, for, dining with her at the governor's house, they soon became very intimately acquainted.

The consequence of their sociability was a residence as husband and wife; and four children were the fruits of the connection, three of whom died: but the other, a boy, was educated by the governor of the island.

Other officers having addressed the same lady, De la Fontaine was occasionally involved in difficulties on her account.

One of these officers having traduced him in his absence, our hero, on meeting him, bid him draw his sword, but the other refused, on which De la Fontaine struck him with his cane, and cut off one of his ears.

On this our adventurer was seized, and tried by a court-martial, but acquitted; and the officer degraded, on account of the provocation he had given; and from this time De la Fontaine was treated with unusual marks of civility.

He still lived on the best terms with the lady, and their affection appeared to be reciprocal.

The governor bestowed on him a considerable tract of land, which he cultivated to great advantage; but the malice of his enemies was so restless, that they prevailed on one of his negro servants to mix a dose of poison in his food.

Unsuspecting of any villany, he swallowed the poison, the consequence of which was, that he languished several months: and the lady, affected by his situation, gave way to melancholy, which brought on a consumption, that deprived her of life.

After her death, De la Fontaine obtained the governor's permission to return to Europe; and lived for some time

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in a splendid manner at Amsterdam ; but at length determined to embark for England.

Having arrived in London, he took elegant lodgings, lived in the style of a gentleman, and made several gay connections.

Among his acquaintance was Zannier, a Venetian, who had been obliged to quit his own country, on account of his irregularities. This man possessed such an artful address that De la Fontaine made him at all times welcome to his table, and admitted him to a considerable share of his confidence.

Zannier soon improved this advantage ; for, contriving a scheme with an attorney and bailiff, he pretended to have been arrested for three hundred pounds, and prevailed on his new friend to bail him, on the assurance that he had a good estate in Ireland, and would pay the money before the return of the writ ; but, when the term arrived, our hero was compelled to discharge the debt, as Zannier did not appear.

Hitherto De la Fontaine had been in London without making any connection with the ladies ; but there being a procession of free-masons at that time, he dressed himself in the most superb taste, and his chariot being the most elegant of any in the procession, he was particularly noticed by the spectators.

Among the rest, the daughter of an alderman had her curiosity so much excited, that she caused enquiry to be made, who he was ; and on the following day sent him a letter, intimating that she should be at a ball at Richmond, where he might have an opportunity of dancing with her.

Our hero did not hesitate to comply ; and when the ball was ended, he received an invitation to dine with the young lady on the following day, at her father's house. He attended accordingly, but the father having learnt his character, insisted that he should decline his visits, which put an end to all his hopes from that quarter.

The circumstances of our hero being greatly reduced, he resolved, if possible, to repair them by marriage, and was soon afterwards wedded to a widow of considerable fortune ; but his taste for extravagance rendered this
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fortune unequal to his support; nor was his conduct to his wife by any means generous.

Soon after his marriage he was at the lord mayor's ball, where he made an acquaintance with the wife of a tradesman, which ended in a criminal connection.

The parties frequently met at taverns and bagnios, and De la Fontaine having written to the lady, appointing her to meet him at a tavern, the letter fell into the hands of her husband, who communicated the contents to her brother, and the letter was sealed up, and delivered according to its address.

The brothers agreed to go to the tavern, where they told the waiter to shew any lady to them who might enquire for De la Fontaine.

In a short time the lady came, and was astonished to be introduced to her brother and husband: but the latter was so affected, that he promised a full remission of all that was passed, on her promise of future fidelity. These generous terms she rejected with contempt, and immediately left the room.

De la Fontaine, being acquainted with this circumstance, was oppressed with a sense of the husband's generous behaviour, and advised the lady to return to her duty. At first she insulted him for his advice, but at length thought proper to comply with it.

Our hero now saw his own conduct in an unfavourable light; on which he went into the country with his wife for some time, to avoid his old associates, and then returned to London, determined to abandon his former course of life.

Unfortunately, however, he had not long formed this resolution, when Zannier went to him, begging his forgiveness for obliging him to pay the debt. De la Fontaine too easily complied with his request, and once more considered him as a friend.

Zannier and De la Fontaine going to a tavern, met with a woman whom the latter had formerly known, and a man who was dressed in black. While De la Fontaine was conversing with the woman, the stranger (who afterwards appeared to be a Fleet-parson) read the marriage ceremony from a book which he held in his hand; and the next week

week De La Fontaine was apprehended on a charge of bigamy, and committed for trial at the Old Bailey.

The villain Zannier visiting him in Newgate, De La Fontaine was so enraged at his perfidy, that he beat him through the press-yard with a broomstick with such severity that the turnkey was obliged to interpose to prevent murder.

In revenge for this, Zannier swore that De La Fontaine had been guilty of forgery, in imitating the hand-writing of a gentleman named Parry: in consequence of which De La Fontaine was brought to his trial, and capitally convicted, though a gentleman swore that the writing resembled that of Zannier, and there was too much reason to believe that his hand committed the forgery.

Yet the jury found De La Fontaine guilty; the Court sentenced him to death; and the day was appointed for his execution. He was, however, respited, and this was from time to time continued, during five years, when he was pardoned on condition of transportation.

In September, 1752, with many other convicts, he was shipped to the English colony of Virginia in America.

De La Fontaine deserved transportation, but a halter was due to Zannier.

MARY BLANDY,

EXECUTED AT OXFORD, APRIL 6, 1752, FOR THE MURDER OF HER FATHER.

It has been a melancholy remark, that two young ladies, Miss Jefferies and Miss Blandy, well educated, and of considerable expectations from the parents whom they murdered, should, as it were, at the same moment contemplate the death of their protectors.

Yet, though Miss Blandy's crime was committed on blood nearest in consanguinity, still she does not appear to have been that determined murderess we find in Miss Jefferies.

Public conversation was long divided on their fate, and in comparisons of their different degrees of crimes.

There is too much reason to fear that both had been seduced by villainous men: but Miss Jefferies, as we have already shewn, was a premeditated and determined murderess. Over the fate of the wretched Miss Blandy we may accord somewhat of commiseration.

The profligate wretch, the seducer of Miss Blandy, was a disgrace to the noble blood from which he derived existence; and what renders his crime more heinous was, his being a married man.

It will appear that, had not this corrupt twig of the noble branch of the tree of genealogy from which he grew spread his insidious snares to entangle the heart and corrupt the mind of Miss Blandy, she would not have been guilty of the abominable and unnatural crime of parricide.

In a moral point of view, though the law may not immediately overtake the villainy, we would appeal to the hearts of the readers of our own sex; nay, we would ask the question, in cooler moments of youth, "Can there be a more destructive vice than the seduction of a virtuous female, under promise of marriage?" Will not your inflamed passions cool? and then, what must be the stings of conscience when you find the too-willing sacrifice to your lust a wretched creature, neglected by her friends, the scorn of the virtuous part of her sex, and the prey of your own?

Thus are we led to acknowledge, with sorrow, the lines of the poet, on a seduced woman:

" Man, the lawless libertine, may rove,
 " Free and unquestion'd, thro' the paths of love;
 " But woman, sense and nature's easy fool—
 " If poor weak woman swerve from virtue's rule—
 " If, strongly charm'd, she tempt the flow'ry way,
 " And in the softer paths of pleasure stray—
 " Ruin ensues, remorse, and endless shame,
 " And one false step entirely damns her fame:
 " In vain with tears the loss she may deplore,
 " In vain look back to what she was before:
 " She sets, like stars that fall, to rise no more!

Mary Blandy was the only daughter of Mr. Francis Blandy, an eminent attorney at Henley-upon-Thames, and town-clerk of that place. She had been educated with
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the utmost tenderness, and every possible care was taken to impress her mind with sentiments of virtue and religion. Her person had nothing in it remarkably engaging; but she was of a sprightly and affable disposition, polite in manners and engaging in conversation, and was uncommonly distinguished by her good sense.

She had read the best authors in the English language, and had a memory remarkably retentive of the knowledge she had acquired. In a word, she excelled most of her sex in those accomplishments which are calculated to grace and dignify the female mind.

The father being reputed to be rich, a number of young gentlemen courted his acquaintance, with a view to make an interest with his daughter: but, of all the visitors, none were more agreeable, both to father and daughter, than the gentlemen of the army; and the former was never better pleased than when he had some of them at his table.

Miss Blandy was about twenty-six years of age when she became acquainted with captain William Henry Cranstoun, who was then about forty-six. He was the son of lord Cranstoun, of an ancient Scotch family, which had made great alliances, by intermarriages, with the nobility of Scotland. Being a younger brother, his uncle, lord Mark Ker, procured him a commission in the army, which, with the interest of 1500*l.* was all he had for his support.

Cranstoun married a Miss Murray, in Scotland, in the year 1745, and received a handsome fortune with her; but he was defective in the great article of prudence. His wife was delivered of a son within a year after the marriage; and about this period he received orders to join his regiment in England, and was sent on a recruiting party to Henley, which gave rise to the unhappy connexion which ended so fatally.

It may seem extraordinary, and is, perhaps, a proof of Cranstoun's art, that he could ingratiate himself into the affections of Miss Blandy; for his person was diminutive: he was so marked with the small-pox, that his face was in seams; and he squinted very much; but he

possessed that faculty of small talk which is unfortunately too much esteemed by many of the fair sex.

Mr. Blandy, who was acquainted with lord Mark Ker, was fond of being deemed a man of taste, and so open to flattery, that it is not to be wondered at that a man of Cranstoun's artifice ingratiated himself into his favour, and obtained permission to pay his addresses to the daughter.

Cranstoun, apprehending that Miss Blandy might discover that he had a wife in Scotland, informed her that he was involved in a disagreeable law-suit in that country with a young lady who claimed him as her husband; and so sure was he of the interest he had obtained in Miss Blandy's affections, that he had the confidence to ask her if she loved him well enough to wait the issue of the affair. She told him that, if her father and mother approved of her staying for him, she had no objection.

This must be allowed to have been a very extraordinary declaration of love, and as extraordinary a reply.

Cranstoun endeavoured to conduct the amour with all possible secrecy; notwithstanding which it came to the knowledge of lord Mark Ker, who wrote to Mr. Blandy, informing him that the captain had a wife and child in Scotland, and conjuring him to preserve his daughter from ruin.

Alarmed by this intelligence, Mr. Blandy informed his daughter of it; but she did not seem equally affected, as Cranstoun's former declaration had prepared her to expect some such news: and when the old gentleman taxed Cranstoun with it, he declared it was only an affair of gallantry, of which he should have no difficulty to free himself.

Mrs. Blandy appears to have been under as great a degree of infatuation as her daughter; for she forbore all further inquiry, on the captain's bare assurance that the report of his marriage was false. Cranstoun, however, could not be equally easy. He saw the necessity of devising some scheme to get his first marriage annulled, or of bidding adieu to all the gratifications he could promise himself by a second.

After revolving various schemes in his mind he at length

length wrote to his wife, requesting her to disown him for a husband. The substance of this letter was, that, "having no other way of rising to preferment but in the army, he had but little ground to expect advancement there while it was known he was encumbered with a wife and family ; but, could he once pass for a single man, he had not the least doubt of being quickly preferred : which would procure him a sufficiency to maintain her, as well as himself, in a genteeler manner than now he was able to do. All therefore (adds he) I have to request of you is, that you will transcribe the enclosed copy of a letter, wherein you disown me for a husband ; put your maiden name to it, and send it by the post : all the use I shall make of it will be to procure my advancement, which will necessarily include your own benefit. In full assurance that you will comply with my request, I remain,

"Your most affectionate husband,

W. H. CRANSTOUN."

Mrs. Cranstoun, ill as she had been treated by her husband, and little hope as she had of more generous usage, was, after repeated letters had passed, induced to give up her claim, and at length sent him the requested paper, signed Murray, which was her maiden name.

The villainous captain, being possessed of this letter, made some copies of it, which he sent to his wife's relations and his own : the consequence of which was, that they withdrew the assistance that they had afforded the lady, which reduced her to an extremity she had never before known.

Exclusive of this, he instituted a suit before the lords of session, for the dissolution of the marriage ; but when Mrs. Cranstoun was heard, and the letters read, the artful contrivance was seen through, the marriage was confirmed, and Cranstoun was adjudged to pay the expenses of the trial.

At the next sessions captain Cranstoun preferred a petition, desiring to be heard by council, on new evidence, which it was pretended had arisen respecting Miss Murray. This petition, after some hesitation, was heard ;
but

but the issue was, that the marriage was again confirmed, and Cranstoun was obliged to allow his wife a separate maintenance.

Still, however, he paid his addresses to Miss Blandy with the same fervency as before; which coming to the knowledge of Mrs. Cranstoun, she sent her the decree of the court of session, establishing the validity of the marriage.

It is reasonable to suppose that this would have convinced Miss Blandy of the erroneous path in which she was treading. On this occasion she consulted her mother; and Cranstoun having set out for Scotland, the old lady advised her to write to him, to know the truth of the affair.

Absurd as this advice was, she wrote to him; but, soon after the receipt of her letter, he returned to Henley, when he had impudence enough to assert that the cause was not finally determined, but would be referred to the House of Lords.

Mr. Blandy gave very little credit to this assertion; but his wife assented at once to all he said, and treated him with as much tenderness as if he had been her own child; of which the following circumstance will afford ample proof.

Mrs. Blandy and her daughter being on a visit to Mrs. Pocock, of Turville-court, the old lady was taken so ill as to be obliged to continue there for some days. In the height of her disorder, which was a violent fever, she cried, "Let Cranstoun be sent for." He was then with the regiment at Southampton; but her request being complied with, she no sooner saw him than she raised herself on the pillow, and hung round his neck, repeatedly exclaiming "My dear Cranstoun, I am glad you are come; I shall now grow well soon!" So extravagant was her fondness, that she insisted on having him as her nurse; and he actually administered her medicines.

On the following day she grew better; on which she said, "This I owe to you, my dear Cranstoun; your coming has given me new health and fresh spirits. I was fearful I should die, and you not here to comfort that poor girl. How like death she looks!"

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It would be ungenerous to the memory of Mrs. Blandy to suppose that she saw Cranstoun's guilt in its true light of enormity ; but certainly she was a most egregious dupe to his artifices.

Mrs. Blandy and her daughter having come to London, the former wanted forty pounds, to discharge a debt she had contracted unknown to her husband ; and Cranstoun coming into the room while the mother and the daughter were weeping over their distresses, he demanded the reason of their grief ; of which being informed, he left them, and, soon returning with the requisite sum, he threw it in the old lady's lap. Charmed by this apparent generosity, she burst into tears, and squeezed his hand fervently : on which he embraced her, and said, " Remember it is a son ; therefore do not make yourself uneasy : you do not lie under any obligation to me."

Of this debt of forty pounds, ten pounds had been contracted by the ladies while in London, for expenses in consequence of their pleasures ; and the other thirty by expensive treats given to Cranstoun at Henley, during Mr. Blandy's absence.

Soon after this Mrs. Blandy died ; and Cranstoun now complaining of his fear of being arrested for the forty pounds, the young lady borrowed that sum, which she gave him ; and made him a present of her watch ; so that he was a gainer by his former apparent generosity.

Mr. Blandy began now to show evident dislike of Captain Cranstoun's visits : but he found means to take leave of the daughter, to whom he complained of the father's ill treatment ; but insinuated that he had a method of conciliating his esteem ; and that, when he arrived in Scotland, he would send her some powders proper for the purpose ; on which, to prevent suspicion, he would write, " Powders to clean the Scotch pebbles."

It does not appear that the young lady had any idea that the powders he was to send her were of a poisonous nature. She seems rather to have been infatuated by her love ; and this is the only excuse that can be made for her subsequent conduct, which appears otherwise totally inconsistent with that good sense for which she was celebrated.

Cranstoun

Cranstoun sent her the powders, according to promise ; and Mr. Blandy being indisposed on the Sunday se'n-night before his death, Susan Gunnell, a maid-servant, made him some water-gruel, into which Miss Blandy conveyed some of the powder, and gave it to her father, and, repeating this draught on the following day, he was tormented with the most violent pains in his bowels.

When the old gentleman's disorder increased, and he was attended by a physician, his daughter came into his room, and, falling on her knees to her father, said, " Banish me where you please ; do with me what you please, so you do but forgive me ; and, as for Cranstoun, I will never see him, speak to him, or write to him, as long as I live, if you will but forgive me."

In reply to this the father said, " I forgive thee, my dear, and I hope God will forgive thee ; but thou shouldst have considered before thou attemptedst any thing against thy father ; thou shouldst have considered I was thy own father."

Miss Blandy now acknowledged that she had put powder in his gruel, but that it was for an innocent purpose : on which the father, turning in his bed, said " O such a villain ! to come to my house, eat of the best and drink of the best my house could afford ; and, in return, take away my life, and ruin my daughter. O ! my dear, thou must hate that man."

The young lady replied, " Sir, every word you say is like a sword piercing to my heart ; more severe than if you were angry : I must kneel, and beg you will not curse me." The father said, " I curse thee ! my dear ?" how couldst thou think I would curse thee ? No, I bless thee, and hope God will bless thee, and amend thy life. Do, my dear, go out of the room ; say no more, lest thou shouldst say any thing to thy own prejudice. Go to thy uncle Stephens, and take him for thy friend : poor man ! I am sorry for him."

Mr. Blandy dying in consequence of his illness, it was suspected that his daughter had occasioned his death ; whereupon she was taken into custody, and committed to the gaol at Oxford.

She was tried on the 3d of March 1752, and, after many

many witnesses had been called to give evidence of her guilt, she was desired to make her defence, which she did in the following speech:

“ My Lord,

“ It is morally impossible for me to lay down the hardships I have received.—I have been aspersed in my character. In the first place it has been said I spoke ill of my father; that I have cursed him, and wished him at hell; which is extremely false. Sometimes little family affairs have happened, and he did not speak to me so kindly as I could wish. I own I am passionate, my lord; and in those passions some hasty expressions might have dropped; but great care has been taken to recollect every word I have spoken at different times, and to apply them to such particular purposes as my enemies knew would do me the greatest injury. These are hardships, my lord, such as yourself must allow to be so. It was said too, my lord, that I endeavoured to make my escape. Your lordship will judge from the difficulties I laboured under:—I had lost my father;—I was accused of being his murderer;—I was not permitted to go near him;—I was forsaken by my friends—affronted by the mob—and insulted by my servants.—Although I begged to have the liberty to listen at the door where he died, I was not allowed it. My keys were taken from me; my shoe-buckles and garters too—to prevent me from making away with myself, as though I was the most abandoned creature. What could I do, my lord? I verily believe I must have been out of my senses. When I heard my father was dead, I ran out of the house, and over the bridge, and had nothing on but a half sack and petticoats, without a hoop—my petticoats hanging about me. The mob gathered round me. Was this a condition, my lord, to make my escape in? A good woman beyond the bridge, seeing me in this distress, desired me to walk in till the mob was dispersed: the town-sergeant was there; I begged he would take me under his protection, to have me home; the woman said it was not proper, the mob was very great, and that I had better stay a little. When I came home, they said I used the constable ill.

I was locked up for fifteen hours, with only an old servant of the family to attend me. I was not allowed a maid for the common decencies of my sex. I was sent to gaol, and was in hopes there at least this usage would have ended ; but was told it was reported I was frequently drunk ; that I attempted to make my escape ; that I did not attend at chapel. A more abstemious woman, my lord, I believe does not live.

“ Upon the report of my making my escape, the gentleman who was high-sheriff last year (not the present) came and told me, by order of the higher powers, he must put an iron on me. I submitted, as I always do, to the higher powers. Some time after he came again, and said he must put a heavier one upon me ; which I have worn, my lord, till I came hither. I asked the sheriff why I was so ironed. He said he did it by the command of some noble peer, on his hearing that I intended making my escape. I told him I never had any such thought, but I would bear it with the other cruel usage I had received on my character. The Reverend Mr. Swinton, the worthy clergyman who attended me in prison, can testify I was regular at the chapel whenever I was well : sometimes I really was not able to come out, and then he attended me in my room. They have likewise published papers and depositions, which ought not to have been published, in order to represent me as the most abandoned of my sex, and to prejudice the world against me. I submit myself to your lordship, and to the worthy jury. I do assure your lordship, as I am to answer at the great tribunal where I must appear, I am as innocent as the child unborn of the death of my father. I would not endeavour to save my life at the expense of truth. I really thought the powder an innocent inoffensive thing ; and I gave it to procure his love (meaning towards Cranstoun). It has been mentioned, I should say, I was ruined. My lord, when a young woman loses her character, is not that her ruin ? Why then should this expression be construed in so wide a sense ? Is it not ruining my character to have such a thing laid to my charge ? And, whatever may be the event of this trial, I am ruined most effectually.”

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The trial lasted eleven hours, and then the judge summed up the evidence, mentioning the scandalous behaviour of some people respecting the prisoner, in printing and publishing what they called depositions taken before the coroner, relating to the affair before them : to which he added, “ I hope you have not seen them ; but, if you have, I must tell you, as you are men of sense and probity, that you must divest yourselves of every prejudice that can arise from thence, and attend merely to the evidence that has now been given.”

The judge then summed up the evidence with the utmost candour ; and the jury, having considered the affair, found her guilty without going out of court.

After conviction she behaved with the utmost decency and resignation. She was attended by the Reverend Mr. Swinton, from whose hands she received the sacrament on the day before her execution, declaring that she did not know there was any thing hurtful in the powders she had given her father.

The night before her death she spent in devotion ; and at nine in the morning she left her apartment, being dressed in a black bombasin, and having her arms bound with black ribands.

The clergyman attended her to the place of execution, to which she walked with the utmost solemnity of deportment ; and, when there, acknowledged her fault in administering the powders to her father, but declared that, as she must soon appear before the most awful tribunal, she had no idea of doing injury, nor any suspicions that the powders were of a poisonous nature.

Having ascended some steps of the ladder, she said, “ Gentlemen, don’t hang me high, for the sake of decency.” Being desired to go something higher, she turned about, and expressed her apprehensions that she should fall. The rope being put round her neck, she pulled her handkerchief over her face, and was turned off on holding out a book of devotions which she had been reading.

The crowd of spectators assembled on this occasion was immense ; and, when she had hung the usual time, she was cut down, and the body, being put into a hearse,

was conveyed to Henley, and interred with her parents, at one o'clock on the following morning.

It will now be proper to return to Cranstoun, who was the original contriver of this horrid murder. Having heard of Miss Blandy's commitment to Oxford gaol, he concealed himself some time in Scotland, and then escaped to Boulogne, in France. Meeting there with Mrs. Ross, who was distantly related to his family, he acquainted her with his situation, and begged her protection; on which she advised him to change his name for her maiden one of Dunbar.

Some officers in the French service, who were related to his wife, hearing of his concealment, vowed revenge, if they should meet with him, for his cruelty to the unhappy woman: on which he fled to Paris, whence he went to Furnes, a town in Flanders, where Mrs. Ross had provided a lodging for his reception.

He had not been long at Furnes when he was seized with a severe fit of illness, which brought him to a degree of reflection to which he had been long a stranger. At length he sent for a father belonging to an adjacent convent, and received absolution from his hands, on declaring himself a convert to the Romish faith.

Cranstoun died on the 30th of November, 1752; and the fraternity of monks and friars looked on his conversion as an object of such importance, that solemn mass was sung on the occasion, and the body was followed to the grave, not only by the ecclesiastics, but by the magistrates of the town.

His papers were then sent to Scotland, to his brother, Lord Cranstoun; his clothes were sold for the discharge of his debts; and his wife came into possession of the interest of the fifteen hundred pounds already mentioned.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM MONTGOMERY,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DECEMBER 2, 1752, FOR DEFRAUDING HIS
CREDITORS.

IN a country like England, and more especially when we view the overgrown capital, though productive of crimes in fraudulent debtors, we must advocate acts of insolvency.

The good of many must be pre-eminent to the villainy of a few; and, where we find one punished for abuse of the lenity of the legislative body, we happily find thousands of unfortunate beings rescued from the horrors of a prison, where they had long been immured without the means of support, much less were they able to satisfy the demands of inexorable creditors.

The necessity of good faith in contracts, and the support of commerce, oblige the legislature to secure for the creditors the persons of the bankrupts; and in this point of view may the subject of this case, and all others who take the benefit of an act of insolvency, be considered.

The fraudulent bankrupt should be punished in the same manner with him who adulterates the coin of the realm; for to falsify a piece of coin, which is a pledge of mutual obligations between men, is not a greater crime than to violate the obligations themselves.

But the bankrupt, who, after a strict examination, has proved before the commissioners that either the fraud or losses of others, or misfortunes unavoidable by human prudence, have stripped him of his substance, upon what barbarous pretence is he thrown into prison, and thus deprived of the only remaining good, the melancholy enjoyment of mere liberty? Still more hard the case of an unfortunate trader, who, disclosing his whole transactions, and offering to assign over to his creditors the remains of his stock, provided they will allow him time to retrieve his losses, is cast into prison by a single hard-hearted unrelenting claimant. Yet is this constantly done in Britain.

Why is such a man cast into a loathsome prison, ranked with criminals, and, in despair, compelled to repent
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of his honesty? Conscious of his innocence, he lived easy and happy under the protection of those laws, which, it is true, he violated, but not intentionally. Laws are dictated by the avarice of the rich, and tacitly accepted by the poor, seduced by that flattering and universal hope, which makes men believe that all unlucky accidents are the lot of others, and the most fortunate only their share.

Mankind, when influenced by the first impressions, love cruel laws, although, being subject to them themselves, it is the interest of every person that they should be as mild as possible; but the fear of being injured is always far more prevalent than the intention of injuring others.

But, to return to the innocent bankrupt. Let his debt, if you will, not be considered as cancelled till payment of the whole; let him be refused the liberty of leaving the country without leave of his creditors, or of carrying into another nation that industry, which, under a penalty, he should be obliged to employ for their benefit; but what pretence can justify the depriving an innocent, though unfortunate, man of his liberty, without the least utility to his creditors?

Then it may in answer be said, that the hardships of confinement will induce him to discover his fraudulent transactions; an event that can hardly be supposed, after a rigorous examination into his conduct and affairs.

It will be necessary to distinguish fraud, attended with aggravating circumstances, from simple fraud, and that from perfect innocence. For the first, let there be ordained the same punishment as for forgery. For the second, a punishment with the loss of liberty; and, if perfectly innocent, let the bankrupt himself choose the method of re-establishing himself, and satisfying his creditors.

With what ease might a sagacious legislator prevent the greatest part of fraudulent bankruptcies, and remedy the misfortunes that befall the honest and industrious! A public register of all contracts, with the liberty of consulting it allowed to each tradesman—a public fund, formed by the contribution of fortunate merchants, for the timely assistance of unfortunate industry—would be establishments

ments that could produce no real inconveniences, but would be attended with numberless advantages.

Many eminent bankers, in the history of the trade of London, by an unexpected run upon their house, must have become bankrupts, and thereby embarrassed thousands, had not the Bank of England come to their succour; but, alas! the unfortunate tradesman has no one to prevent his fall. Unhappily, the most simple, the easiest regulations, wait only the nod of the legislator to diffuse through nations wealth, power, and felicity; laws, which would be regarded by future generations with eternal gratitude, are either unknown or rejected. A restless and trifling spirit, the timid prudence of the present moment, and a distrust and aversion to the most useful motives, possess the minds of those who are empowered to regulate the actions of mankind.

It must, at the same time, be acknowledged, that the baseness of a few failures often tends to render callous the feelings of creditors.

No act of insolvency has been carried into effect without the detection of fraud. Eager to embrace its benefits, and thus rid themselves of debt, men will wade through perjury, and employ every means to accomplish their purpose.

After the destruction of the prisons in London, during the riots of the year 1780, an act was passed for the purpose of absolving all who had then been confined. Of this every rascal in London was ready to take the advantage. A mere form was only necessary, to enter their names; but the signatures became so very numerous, that Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, to his infinite honour, ordered the lists to be printed and published, which put to the rout whole hives of impostors. Names were therein found that might as well have expected to appear in the list of Gazette promotions.

A man of this description was the subject who led to this inquiry.

William Montgomery was a native of Elphinstone, in Scotland, and educated in the Presbyterian form of religion.

His father dying when he was about thirteen years old,
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his mother sent him to sea in a ship belonging to Alloa. Having continued in the naval line of business some years, he at length married, and opened a public house in Bishopsgate-street; and, dealing largely as a smuggler, he frequently went to Holland, to bring home prohibited goods.

Quitting Bishopsgate-street, he lived some years at the sign of the Highlander, in Shadwell; but, on the death of his wife, he resolved to decline business as a publican; and, having saved some money, he entered again into the matrimonial state, and, taking a house in Nightingale-lane, he let lodgings to seafaring men.

Meeting with success, he took a shop as a seller of scamen's clothes; but left the care of it chiefly to his wife, while he employed his own time in frequent trips to Holland, in pursuit of his former illicit practice of smuggling.

An act of insolvency passing in the year 1748, favourable to such persons as had been in foreign parts fugitives for debt, Montgomery took the benefit of it, swearing that he was at Rotterdam on the last day of the preceding year: in consequence of which he was cleared of his debts, to the injury of his creditors.

No notice was taken of this affair till the expiration of four years, when, Montgomery having arrested a neighbour, the man gave notice of his former transactions to one of his creditors, who laying an information before the lord mayor, Montgomery was lodged in Newgate on suspicion.

Being brought to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, several persons deposed that they spent the evening with him at his own house at the time that he alleged that he was in Holland, in order to take the benefit of the act: so that he was convicted, and received sentence to die.

For some time after conviction he behaved with apparent signs of devotion; but asserted his innocence, and said that the witnesses against him were perjured; and in this tale he continued till the arrival of the warrant for his execution.

Being pressed by the divine who attended him to tell
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the truth, he persisted in the former story till the Friday before his death ; but in the afternoon of that day he acknowledged, that after having been on board a Dutch vessel, in order to take his passage for Holland, he had come on shore, owing to the contrary winds.

On the following day he insisted that, “ as he had been sworn according to the methods used in Scotland, without kissing the book, his crime could not come within the meaning of the act.” In reply to this he was told that the mode of administering could make no difference in the nature of an oath.

Hereupon he made a full confession of his crime, and owned that, having come on shore, he concealed himself for some weeks in his own house ; then appeared publicly, saying that he had been at Rotterdam : after which he surrendered to the warden of the Fleet prison, and obtained the benefit of the act of insolvency.

On the Sunday following, when he was pressed to declare the whole truth, he exclaimed, “ What would you have me say ? I have told you all the truth, and I can say no otherwise than I have done. If I did, I should belie myself, and my own knowledge.”

This malefactor appeared dreadfully shocked on the morning of execution, and wished for time for repentance, which he now considered as highly necessary. At the place of execution he warned the spectators to beware of covetousness, which had been the cause of his destruction.

ANN WILLIAMS,

EXECUTED AT GLOUCESTER, APRIL 13, 1753, FOR THE MURDER OF HER HUSBAND.

THE behaviour of this fiend had long been a prelude to the diabolical crime which she committed. She was in her family turbulent and dictatorial ; her husband the very reverse. His mild and quiet disposition served only to nurse her opposition and violence. He had long given

way to her in all things, and she, in return, ruled him with a rod of iron.

Before the commission of this horrid deed we have found women make bad use of man's unqualified indulgence. Hence arose the vulgar saying of "the grey mare being the better horse," of "hen-pecked husbands," and many other irritating observations on men troubled with shrews.

One of the wisest of the ancient philosophers had his Xantippe ; and the poet sings,

" When man to woman gives the sway,
" To what is right they oft say Nay."

The pliancy of the more unfortunate man in question could not shield him from the dread effects of the ascendancy she had over him ; it sunk into contempt, and she determined to rule alone. To effect this her wicked heart suggested the death of her husband.

For this horrid purpose she prevailed on their servant man to purchase some white mercury, which she mixed in some gruel, and caused him to eat thereof. This mode of administering the poison, it was conjectured, was adopted in contempt of him, for it appeared the poor man did not like gruel. She then directed him to draw her some ale, of which he also drank ; and was immediately seized with violent purgings and vomiting. She told the man, whom it seems she meant afterwards to share her bed, that she " had given her husband the stuff he brought, and that it was operating purely !"

The dying man, in his agonies, said his wife was a wicked woman ; that he was well until she made him eat some pap, which had done his business ; and that he should be a dead man on the morrow ; and, in spite of medical aid, he died next day, his body being in a state of mortification.

The horrid crime being fully proved against her, she received sentence to be burnt at the stake, which sentence was accordingly carried into execution among a number of spectators, who shewed little pity for her fate, and which became still more shocking from denying the fact,

fact, so incontrovertibly proved, to the very last moment of her existence.

DR. A. CAMERON,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JUNE 7, 1753, GREATLY LAMENTED, FOR HIGH TREASON.

THE rebellion having been now suppressed nearly eight years, and the British nation enjoying internal peace, we could almost have wished that the royal mercy had been extended to Dr. Cameron, who possessed an excellent character in private life. Indeed the very small part he took in the crime, for which he suffered equal with the most active chief, he appears to have been drawn into the commission of by his attending his elder brother alone with his professional services.

By an act of attainder passed the year after the rebellion, for the effectual punishment of persons concerned in it, the life of Dr. Cameron was forfeited to its rigour.

The brother of this unfortunate man was the chief of the family of their name in the Highlands, and had obtained the highest degree of reputation by his zealous and effectual endeavours to civilize the manners of his countrymen.

Dr. Cameron, being intended by his father for the profession of the law, was sent to Glasgow, where he continued his studies some years; but, having an attachment to the practice of physic, he entered in the university of Edinburgh; whence he went to Paris, and then completed his studies at Leyden, in Holland.

Though well qualified to have cut a respectable figure in any capital city, yet he chose to reside for life near his native place; and, having returned to the Highlands, he married, and settled in the small town of Lochaber, where, though his practice was small, his generous conduct rendered him the delight and the blessing of the neighbourhood. His wife bore him seven children, and

was pregnant of the eighth at the unfortunate period of his death.

While Dr. Cameron was living happily in the domestic way the rebellion broke out, and laid the foundation of the ruin of himself and his family. The Pretender, having landed, went to the house of Mr. M'Donald, and sent for the doctor's brother, who went to him, and did all in his power to dissuade him from an undertaking from which nothing but ruin could ensue.

The elder Mr. Cameron having previously promised to bring all his clan in aid of the Pretender, the latter upbraided him with an intention of breaking his promise; which so affected the generous spirit of the Highlander, that he immediately went and took leave of his wife, and gave orders for his vassals, to the number of near twelve hundred, to have recourse to arms*.

This being done, he sent for his brother, to attend him as a physician; but the doctor urged every argument against so rash an undertaking, from which he even besought him on his knees to desist. The brother would not be denied; and the doctor at length agreed to attend him as a physician, though he absolutely refused to accept any commission in the rebel army.

This unhappy gentleman was distinguished by his humanity; and gave the readiest assistance, by night or day, to any wounded men of the royal army who were made prisoners by the rebels. His brother being wounded in the leg at the battle of Falkirk, he attended him with the kindest assiduity, till himself was likewise slightly wounded.

Dr. Cameron exhibited repeated instances of his humanity; but, when the battle of Culloden gave a decisive stroke to the hopes of the rebels, he and his brother escaped to the western islands, whence they sailed to France in a vessel belonging to that kingdom.

The doctor was appointed physician to a French regiment, of which his brother obtained the command; but

* At this time Mr. Cameron's estate did not exceed seven hundred pounds per annum. His being able, then, to arm such a number, is a proof of the poverty and the vassalage of the country at that period.

the latter dying at the end of two years, the doctor became physician to Ogilvie's regiment, then in Flanders.

A subscription being set on foot in England and Scotland, in the year 1750, for the relief of those persons who had been attainted, and escaped into foreign countries, the doctor came into England to receive the money for his unfortunate fellow-sufferers. At the end of two years another subscription was opened; when the doctor, whose pay was inadequate to the support of his numerous family, came once more to this country, and, having written a number of urgent letters to his friends, it was rumoured that he was returned.

Hereupon a detachment from Lord George Beauclerk's regiment was sent in search of him, and he was taken in the following manner:—Captain Graves, with thirty soldiers, going towards the place where it was presumed he was concealed, saw a little girl at the extremity of a village, who, on their approach, fled towards another village. She was pursued by a servant and two soldiers, who could only come near enough to observe her whispering to a boy, who seemed to have been placed for the purpose of conveying intelligence.

Unable to overtake the boy, they presented their guns at him; on which he fell on his knees, and begged his life, which they promised on condition that he would shew them the place where Dr. Cameron was concealed.

Hereupon the boy pointed to the house where he was, which the soldiers surrounded, and took him prisoner. Being sent to Edinburgh, he was thence conducted to London, and committed to the Tower.

While in this confinement he was denied the use of pen, ink, and paper, nor suffered to speak to his friends but when the warder was present. On his examination before the lords of the privy-council, he denied that he was the same Dr. Cameron whose name had been mentioned in the act of attainder, which made it necessary to procure living evidence to prove his identity.

Being brought to the bar of the Court of King's Bench on the 17th of May, he was arraigned on the act of attainder, when, declining to give the Court any farther trouble, he

he acknowledged that he was the person who had been attainted, on which the Lord Chief Justice Lee pronounced sentence in the following terms: " You, Archibald Cameron, of Lochiel, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, must be removed from hence to his majesty's prison of the Tower of London, from whence you came, and on Thursday, the 7th of June next, your body to be drawn on a sledge to the place of execution; there to be hanged, but not till you are dead; your bowels to be taken out, your body quartered, your head cut off, and affixed at the king's disposal; and the Lord have mercy on your soul!"

After his commitment to the Tower he begged to see his wife, who was then at Lisle, in Flanders; and, on her arrival, the meeting between them was inexpressibly affecting. The unhappy lady wept incessantly, on reflecting on the fate of her husband, herself, and numerous family.

Coming to take her final leave of him on the morning of execution, she was so agitated by her contending passions, that she was attacked by repeated fits; and, a few days after the death of her unfortunate husband, she became totally deprived of her senses.

On the 7th of June the sheriffs went to the Tower, and demanded the body of Dr. Archibald Cameron, who was accordingly brought to them by William Ranford, Esq. the deputy-lieutenant.

As soon as he was seated on the sledge, whereon he was to be drawn to the place of execution, he requested to speak to his wife; but being informed that she had left the Tower, after taking leave of him at eight o'clock, he replied he was sorry for it; upon which the sledge moved towards Tyburn, among a great number of spectators, who all pitied his situation.

The doctor was dressed in a light-coloured coat, red waistcoat, and breeches, and a new bag wig. He looked much at the spectators in the houses and balconies, as well as at those in the streets, and bowed to several persons with whom he had been acquainted.

At a quarter past twelve the solemn procession reached the place of execution, where he looked on the officers
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and spectators with an undaunted and composed countenance ; and, as soon as unloosed from the sledge, he started up, and with an heroic deportment stepped up into the cart ; whence, looking round with unconcern on all the apparatus of death, he smiled. Seeing the clergyman that had before attended him coming up the steps, he came forward to meet him, and endeavoured, with his fettered hands, to help him up, saying, “ So, are you come?—this is a glorious day to me !—’tis my new birthday !—there are more witnesses at this birth than at my first.”

The clergyman, being now at the side of the cart, asked “ how he felt himself.” He answered, “ Thank God, I am very well, but a little fatigued with my journey : but, blessed be God ! I am now come to the end of it.”

The sheriff asking the clergyman whether he would be long about his office, Dr. Cameron immediately took the words, and said he required but very little time ; for it was disagreeable to be there, and he was as impatient to be gone as they were.

The clergyman then demanded of the gentleman who had spoken whether he was the sheriff, and, on being answered in the affirmative, he told him Dr. Cameron’s business would be chiefly with him ; that he had something to communicate to him, if he would take the trouble to come near, which he very readily complied with, and endeavoured to ride his horse close to the cart ; but finding the beast a little unruly, and that he could not hear what the doctor said by reason of the noise of the multitude, he beckoned with his hand for silence, but to no purpose ; whereupon he humanely alighted, and came up to the steps ; whence, with great civility and attention, he listened to the doctor, who spoke to the following purpose :

“ Sir,

“ You see a fellow-subject just going to pay his last debt : I more cheerfully resign my life, as it is taken from me for doing my duty according to my conscience. I freely forgive all my enemies, and those who have been instrumental in taking away my life. I thank God I die in charity with all men.

“ As

“As to my religion, I die a steadfast, though unworthy, member of that Church in which I have always lived, the Church of England; in whose communion I hope (through the merits of my blessed Saviour) for forgiveness of my sins, for which I am heartily sorry.

“The custom of delivering something in writing, on such occasions as this, I should willingly have complied with, had it not been put out of my power, being denied the use of pen, ink, and paper, except in the presence of some of my keepers.

“But what I intend my country should be informed of, with regard to my dying sentiments, I have, by means of a blunt pencil, endeavoured to set down on some slips of paper, as I came by them, in as legible characters as I was able; and these I have left in the hands of my wife, charging her, on her duty to her dying husband, to transmit, with all convenient speed, a faithful transcript of them to you, and I am confident she will faithfully discharge the trust.”

This truly unfortunate man then told the sheriff he would no longer presume upon his patience; but the sheriff, with looks that shewed a great deal of concern, begged he would take as much time as he pleased, for he would wait until he was ready. The doctor thanked him; and, turning to the clergyman, said, “I have now done with this world, and am ready to leave it.”

He now joined him in some short prayers, and repeated some ejaculations out of the Psalms; then embraced the clergyman, and took his farewell.

As the divine was going down from the cart he had nearly missed the steps, which the doctor observing, he called to him in a cheerful tone of voice, saying, “Take care how you go; I think you don’t know this way as well as I do!” and now, upon his giving the signal, the cart drew from under him.

After the body had hung twenty minutes it was cut down: the heart was taken out and burnt, but it was not quartered.

On the following Sunday the remains of Dr. Cameron were interred in a large vault in the Savoy chapel.

CHRISTOPHER

**CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON AND JOHN
STOCKDALE,**

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, JULY 3, 1753, AND THEIR BODIES HUNG IN
CHAINS, FOR MURDER.

IN the account of Johnson, we trace his birth to Newgate: he was the son of one Roger Johnson and his wife, who were prisoners on a charge of a defraud. Soon after they obtained their liberty the father died, and the mother sent the child to her relations at Derby, who, having given him a tolerable education, apprenticed him to a saddler; but at the expiration of three years he ran away, and travelled to London.

On his arrival he went to some of his mother's relations, who persuaded him to return to Derby; but, deaf to their advice, and having imbibed false ideas of gentility, he procured some elegant clothes, and frequented the gaming-houses, where he soon made the most dangerous connexions, and arrived at the head of his profession.

From the practice of gaming he took to that of forgery, at which he was remarkably expert in imitating the hands of other people to notes payable to himself; by which he repeatedly acquired money, but still escaped detection.

His daringness was such, that he sometimes arrested persons on whom he had committed forgeries, and compelled the payment of the money by having people ready to swear that the handwriting was that of the party whose name was subscribed to the draft.

The following is one specimen of his devices:—He forged a note on a lady of considerable fortune, and signed her name to it so like her writing that she almost discredited her own sight when she read it. Johnson arrested her; but, as she knew she had given no such note, she bailed the action, and prepared to stand trial; but the guilty man declined all farther proceedings.

During this abandoned course of life he became acquainted with the daughter of a man who kept an ale-house in the Strand, and they were privately married in the Fleet; but, animosities soon arising between them,

they proceeded from words to blows; the consequence of which was, that they parted, and his wife became a common streetwalker.

After this Johnson took to picking pockets, and other low practices of fraud; but a miserable poverty still attended him, for what he got dishonestly was soon spent in dissipation. At length he met with Stockdale at Sadler's Wells, and agreed to see him the next evening at a house in Holborn.

Stockdale was born at Leicester, where his father was a reputable proctor, who gave him an excellent education, but was too injudiciously fond of him to keep that strict guard over his conduct which might have been essential to his future welfare. He very soon manifested a disposition to idleness, which was not properly checked by his parents, who would not permit his schoolmaster to chastise him for his faults.

When the father saw his error, he determined, in pursuance of the advice of some friends, to send him to a proctor in Doctors' Commons, where he hoped to hear of a speedy reformation in his manners.

Stockdale, however, was of too idle a disposition to brook confinement. His extravagance exceeded the bounds of his father's allowance, and he borrowed of his acquaintance to supply his immediate wants.

In this way he went on, frequenting places of public diversion, till those who had lent him money teased him for a return of it; and he was at a loss for farther resources, when he met Johnson at Sadler's Wells, as above mentioned.

On the following day these ill-fated youths met at the appointed place, and made a contract for their mutual destruction. At this time Johnson was under twenty, and Stockdale not eighteen years of age.

Stockdale agreed to accompany Johnson; and the next day they hired horses and rode towards Rumford, near which the party lived whom they intended to rob; and, having wasted the time till night, they tied their horses to a hedge, and, being armed with pistols, they knocked at the door, which being opened by the old gentleman, Johnson presented a pistol to his breast: and then they

they bound him and his two servants, and told the master that he must expect immediate death if he did not discover where his money was concealed.

Terrified by this threat, he told them to take a key from his pocket, which would open a bureau, where they would find a bag containing all the cash then in his possession. The robbers having seized the property, Johnson put the bag into his pocket, and then remounted, and rode to London, where they found the booty to consist of one hundred and fifty pounds: but this they soon dissipated in acts of extravagance, and then proceeded to commit a number of robberies on the roads of Essex and Kent.

It is now proper to mention the crime for which they suffered—a murder equally barbarous and unprovoked. They took horses in Holborn, and, having rode to Edmon-ton, turned up a lane, where they met a postman who was carrying letters round the neighbourhood: the man good-naturedly opened the gate for them to pass, when Johnson demanded his money and watch, which he held out to them, and at that instant was shot dead by Stockdale.

The murder was no sooner committed than they hastened to London; and, though the country was alarmed by what had happened, they rode on the following day to Hounslow, where they dined. After dinner they called for their horses; but Stockdale was so intoxicated that he at first fell from the horse, but was replaced.

The magistrates having by this time sent out a number of constables, the murderers were taken into custody, and carried before a magistrate, when Stockdale acknowledged his guilt; but by this time Johnson was so drunk, that he was insensible of his commitment to Newgate.

When Stockdale's master heard of his unhappy situation, he immediately wrote to his father, who, coming to London, had a very affecting interview with his son, who exclaimed, "Oh, Sir, how shall I look you in the face? what disgrace have I brought upon you, what destruction upon myself! A shameful death is preparing for me in this world; but what in the next, God knows."

The father advised him to an early preparation for the awful fate that awaited him, and refused to flatter him

with hopes of that pardon which could not reasonably be expected. He comforted himself accordingly, and intended to have pleaded guilty, but was afterwards advised not to do so.

When brought up to receive sentence of death, Johnson was so unwell that he was indulged with a chair.

Stockdale kept up his spirits with decent fortitude until his eyes met those of a gentleman near him, with whom he had lived; when he burst into tears, and continued in great agitation the remainder of the awful time, frequently beating his head and breast in a violent manner.

Johnson was so extremely debilitated that he could pay no attention at the place of execution to the preparation of his soul for another life;* but Stockdale prayed fervently, and made a pathetic address to the populace at the fatal tree.

After hanging the usual time, their bodies were taken to Surgeons' Hall for dissection; and preparations for that purpose were making, when an order came from the office of the Secretary of State that they should be hung in chains on Winchmore-hill, where they were accordingly placed—a terrible example!

Soon after they were hung in chains the following advertisement appeared in the London Gazette:

“ General Post-Office, Oct. 28, 1753.

“ Whereas an anonymous letter has been sent to the Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Leicester, his Majesty's Postmaster-General, in the following terms:

‘ My Lord,

‘ I find that it is by your orders that Mr. Stockdale was hung in chains: now, if you don't order him to be taken down, I will set fire to your house, and blow your brains out the first opportunity.

‘ Thursday, October, 1753.’

“ A reward of one hundred pounds is hereby offered

* We cannot avoid questioning the moral right of man putting man to a public death in a state of insensibility: it is little better than sending his soul, unprepared, to render up his account of his sins to his Maker.

to any person who shall or may make a discovery of the party or parties concerned in writing or sending the abovesaid letter, so that he, she, or they, may be convicted thereof, together with his Majesty's most gracious pardon to any accomplice who shall make discovery of the same.

“ By order of the Postmaster-General,
“ GEORGE SHELVOKE, Sec.”

The incendiary was not discovered; Stockdale's remains continued on the gibbet; and the Postmaster-General and his house remained in safety.

WILLIAM SMITH,

EXECUTED AT YORK, AUGUST 14, 1753, FOR POISONING THOMAS HARPER, HIS FATHER-IN-LAW, AND HIS TWO CHILDREN, WILLIAM AND ANNE HARPER.

MANY instances have already been adduced, in the preceding pages, of the wonderful effects of conscience on a guilty mind; but in no case has this imperious instinct been more manifest than in the murderer whose crime we have now under consideration.

The contending powers of good and evil appear to have alternately had possession of his faculties; but the evil genius which guided him on to commit the foul crime, melancholy to relate! at length prevailed; he died denying a fact once confessed, and for which he virtually surrendered himself into the hands of public justice.

William Smith was a farmer, in good circumstances, at Great Broughton, in the county of York. His mother having married a second husband, one Thomas Harper, of Ingleby manor, who had children against his wish, he therefore resolved to rid himself of those whom he considered obtruders between him and his prospects from his late father's estate.

After forming several diabolical plans for cutting them off, and his resolution as often failing him, being one day in an apothecary's shop purchasing some physic for his horses, the evil spirit whispered him that the means were

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at hand, and he immediately asked for a little arsenic, to kill the rats in his barn. The apothecary, not suspecting a man of Smith's respectability meant the deadly powder for any other use, sold him two pennyworth.

The day chosen by this now-determined sinner to administer the poison was on the Good Friday of the year 1753, when observing a large cake preparing, of which some neighbours had been invited to partake, unperceived, as he imagined, he mixed it with the flour, and thus it was served up to the table.

It providentially happened that the neighbours did not come to dinner, and none ate of the cake except Thomas Harper and two of his children, William and Anne.

Having made preparations for flight, the murderer, the moment he found his wickedness had taken its desired effect, set off for Liverpool, from which a suspicion arose that he was the perpetrator of the horrid deed.

The unfortunate people languished in excruciating torments until the next day, when they expired.

No sooner had Smith reached Liverpool than his conscience began to rebuke him, and, having no kind of employment, his existence became a burden to him: nor could he find the least respite until he returned to the very spot where he committed the murder, where he was immediately apprehended, and confessed his crime.

At the autumn assizes for the county of York, before Mr. Serjeant Eyre, Smith was, on his own confession, the evidence of the apothecary, and a maid-servant, who saw him busy with the flour, with other corroborating circumstantial evidence, found guilty, and received sentence of death.

Immediately after execution his body was delivered to the surgeons for dissection, leaving a young wife to lament his crimes, with an infant child at her breast.

JOHN HAMBLETON,

(A Soldier of the Guards,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, DEC. 10, 1753, FOR THE CRUEL MURDER OF
MR. CROUCH.

WHERE a number of soldiers are deemed necessary to assemble for the public welfare, it would be strange if there were among them neither thief nor profligate. The best-appointed regiments cannot always escape censure, from the villainies of a few individuals which disgrace their ranks, and throw an odium on what should ever be held "the honourable character of a soldier."

The guards stationed in and about the metropolis often consist of several thousands ; and there being no barracks for the number on duty, they are quartered about the suburbs of Westminster ; where, mixing with the most vicious part of the community, it is little to be wondered at that they do not entirely escape contamination of morals.

We shall have occasion, too often, to recount the outrages of soldiers belonging to the guards ; and which, at the same time, we acknowledge, it is impossible for their officers to prevent ; yet we cannot believe that among them there are a tenth part of the number of villains to be found in the same number of men of the lower order of civil society.

The circumstances attending the crime for which Hambleton suffered, we are sorry to say, are an infamous disgrace to the character of the soldier, and shocking to humanity.

Wherever a soldier meets brave opposition, if victorious, he treats his fallen enemy with kindness ; but this thieving poltroon, assisted by another dastardly fellow of his regiment, murdered their fallen adversary, after his making a noble struggle for his property.

Mr. Crouch, the murdered man, was head cook to the Earl of Harrington.

On the 17th of August, 1753, he went upon the business of his employer to Chelsea, and in returning through
the

the King's Road, about nine o'clock in the evening, he was met by Hambleton and his associate, named Lattie, who with horrid imprecations demanded his money.

Mr. Crouch was a resolute man, and refused to be robbed; thereupon they fired two pistols at him, without effect. Being himself unarmed, he had recourse to a pocket-knife, which he opened, and told them to keep off; but they closed on him, in doing which he wounded Lattie in three places. The villains overpowering him, they threw him to the ground, rifled his pockets of his money and his watch; and then, not content with their booty, with which they might have escaped, they wrested the knife from his hand, ripped open his belly, then stamped upon his mangled body, beat him on the head with the butt-ends of their pistols, and left him weltering in his blood.

Early next morning some labourers going to their work discovered him still alive, and able to describe the robbers, with his place of residence, which was a small house in Green-street, Grosvenor-square, near his noble employer's mansion. Thither he was carried, where he languished in excruciating torments three days, and then died, leaving a widow and three children.

The murderers, from his description, were soon apprehended. Lattie had the wounds about him given by the deceased, who was able to identify them the day before his death.

Hambleton was brought to his trial at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to die; but Lattie died of the wounds given him by the murdered man before the time of his being arraigned, thus robbing the gallows of its just due.

The surviving murderer was executed at Tyburn, professing himself a Roman Catholic, and his body given to the surgeons for dissection.

CAPTAIN

CAPTAIN JOHN LANCEY,

EXECUTED AT EXECUTION-DOCK, JUNE 7, 1754, FOR BURNING HIS
SHIP.

THIS unfortunate man fell a dupe to an artful and wicked villain, his employer, who at the time was a disgraceful member of the House of Commons ; and who, to avoid the punishment due to his crimes, fled, and left the unfortunate subject whose case is before us, a victim to his baseness.

Captain John Lancey was a native of Biddeford, in Devonshire, respectably born, and well educated. As he gave early proofs of an inclination for a seafaring life, he was taught navigation, was attentive to his studies, and gave proofs of a goodness of disposition that promised a better fate than afterwards attended him.

Lancey was sent to sea as mate of a ship, of which Mr. Benson, a rich merchant at Biddeford, was the proprietor. Lancey, having married a relation of Benson's, was soon advanced to the command of the vessel. This Benson was member of Parliament for Barnstaple in Devonshire : and what kind of character he deserved will appear in the sequel.

After Lancey had returned from a long voyage he was for a considerable time confined to his bed by a violent illness, the expence of which tended considerably to impoverish him. When he was in part recovered, Benson told him that he proposed to refit the ship in which he had formerly sailed : that Lancey should have the command of her : that he (Benson) would insure her for more than double her value ; and then Lancey should destroy the vessel.

This proposal appeared shocking to Lancey, who thought it but a trial of his honesty, and declared his sentiments, saying, that he would never take any part in a transaction so totally opposite to the whole tenor of his conduct.

For the present nothing more was said ; but soon afterwards Benson invited Lancey and several other gentlemen to dine with him. The entertainment was liberal ;

and Captain Lancey being asked to stay after the rest of the company were gone, Mr. Benson took him to a summer house in the garden, where he again proposed the destroying the ship, and urged it in a manner that proved he was in earnest.

Captain Lancey hesitated a short time on this proposal, and then declined to have any concern in so iniquitous a scheme; declaring that he would seek other employment rather than take any part in such a transaction; but Benson, resolving if possible not to lose his agent, prevailed on him to drink freely, and then urged every argument he could think of to prevail on him to undertake the business, promising to shelter him from punishment in case of detection.

Lancey still hesitated: but when Benson mentioned the poverty to which his family was reduced by his late illness, and offered such flattering prospects of protection, the unhappy man at length yielded to his own destruction.

A ship was now fitted out, and bound for Maryland: goods to a large amount were shipped on board, but re-landed before the vessel sailed, and a lading of brickbats taken in by way of ballast.

They had not been long at sea, when a hole was bored in the side of the ship, and a cask of combustible ingredients was set on fire, with a view to destroy her. The fire no sooner appeared, than the captain called to some convicted transports, then in the hold, to enquire if they had fired the vessel; which appears to have been only a feint to conceal the real design.

The boat being hoisted out, all the crew got safe on shore; and then Lancey repaired immediately to Benson to inform him of what had passed: Benson instantly dispatched him to a procter, before whom he swore that the ship had accidentally taken fire, and that it was impossible to prevent the consequences which followed.

Lancey now repaired to his own house, and continued with as much apparent unconcern as if such a piece of villainy had not been perpetrated; but he was soon afterwards taken into custody by a constable, who informed him, that oath had been made of the transaction before

fore the mayor of Exeter by one of the seamen. Lancey, however, did not express much concern, secure in his idea of protection from the supposed influence of Benson.

On the following day, Lancey, and one of the ship's crew, were committed to the goal of Exeter, where they remained three months; and, being then removed to London, were examined by Sir Thomas Salisbury, the judge of the Admiralty-court, and committed to the prison of the Marshalsea. Application was afterwards made to the court of Admiralty, to admit them to bail; and there appeared to be no objection to granting the favour; but Benson, on whom they had depended for bail, had absconded, to escape the justice due to his atrocious crime.

Being committed to Newgate, they were brought to trial at the next sessions of Admiralty held at the Old Bailey: when Lancey was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death; but the other was acquitted.*

Lancey lay in prison about four months after conviction, during which his behaviour was altogether consistent with his unhappy situation. His christian charity was remarkable towards Benson: for, though that wicked man had been the cause and instigator of his ruin, yet he never once reflected on him, but imputed all the crime to himself, and appeared to behold it in its genuine light of deformity.

It was presumed, when he was first apprehended, that he might have been admitted an evidence against Benson, if he would have impeached him, but this he steadily refused to do.

* In Scotland this crime is not punished with death. Daniel Lampro, late commander of the ship Prince Charles, of Lorrain, was indicted in the High Court of Admiralty, in Edinburgh, and found guilty of wilfully sinking the said ship, on the coast of Cumberland, in May, 1752, having first disposed of the cargo, part at Cork, and the rest in the Isle of Man; and sentenced "to stand on the pillory for one hour, with a label on his breast denoting his crime, and a halter about his neck, denoting his desert." Had the end of the halter been fastened to the gallows, and he suspended from it by the neck, such a destructive villain would then have had his desert.

His devotional exercises were exemplary : he attended prayers in the most regular manner, and gave every proof of his contrition. He was accompanied to the place of execution by two clergymen ; and, having confessed his guilt in a speech to the surrounding multitude, he underwent the sentence of the law.

This unhappy man suffered at Execution-dock, in the 27th year of his age.

MARY SQUIRES, convicted of Robbery ; and ELIZABETH CANNING, transported for Perjury.

(A Case of mystery, on which the Public were greatly divided in Opinion.)

THIS is a case upon which human sagacity can hardly determine, we shall therefore only give an abridged account, fairly stated from the evidence as it arose,

“ Nothing extenuate, or set down aught in malice.”

If Elizabeth Canning's own story may be credited, she quitted the house of her mother, near Aldermanbury, on the first of January, 1753 ; and, having visited her uncle and aunt, who lived near Saltpetre-bank, was on her return assaulted in Moorfields by two men, who robbed her of half a guinea, which was in a small box in her pocket, and three shillings that were loose. They also took her gown, apron, and hat, which one of them put into the pocket of his great-coat : on which she screamed out ; but he bound a handkerchief round her mouth, and tied her hands behind her ; after which she received a violent blow on the head, which, added to her former terror, occasioned her falling into a fit, a disorder to which she had been subject about four years.

On her recovery from the fit, and about half an hour before she reached Wells's house, she found herself by the road-side, the two men dragging her forward. She observed water near the road, and arrived at the house where she said she was confined about three hours before daylight. When she came into the house, she did not see the
mistress

mistress of it, Susannah Wells ; but saw Mary Squires, a gipsey, and two girls.

Squires taking Canning by the hand, asked her if she chose to go their way, and if she would, she should have fine clothes. Canning, understanding that her meaning was to commence prostitute, replied in the negative ; on which Squires took a knife from a drawer, cut the lace from her stays, and took them from her. Then Squires pushed her up a few stairs out of the kitchen, to a place called the hay-loft, and shut the door on her. On the approach of day-light, she found that the room had neither bed nor beadstead, and only hay to sleep on ; that there was a black pitcher nearly full of water, and about twenty-four pieces of bread, in the whole about the quantity of a quarter-loaf ; and that she had in her pocket a penny minced pie, which she had bought to carry to her brother.

She said, that she covered herself with a bed-gown and handkerchief, which she found in the grate ; and that, for the space of twenty-eight days within a few hours, which she remained there, she had no food nor liquor except what is above mentioned, nor had the common evacuation of nature.

About four in the afternoon of Monday the 29th of January, she pulled down a board that was nailed on the inside of the window, and getting her head first out, she kept fast hold by the wall, and then dropped into a narrow place by a lane, behind which was a field.

Having got into the highway, she enquired her way to London, but did not stop. When she came into Moorfields the clock struck ten ; and she thence proceeded to her mother's near Aldermanbury, where she told the above story to two gentlemen with whom she had lived as a servant : to which she added, that the place where she had been confined was near the Hertfordshire road, which was evident from her having seen a coachman drive by, who had frequently carried her mistress into Hertfordshire.

A number of circumstances giving reason to suspect that the house in which she had been confined was that of Susannah Wells, a warrant was issued to apprehend her

her and Squires, and such other people as might be found in the house.

Mr. Lion, with whom she had lived servant, and several other persons, went with her to execute the warrant. When she came to the place, she fixed on Mary Squires as the person who had robbed her; and she said that Virtue Hall stood by while her stays were cut off.

On this, all the parties were carried before Justice Tyshmaker; when Hall so solemnly denied all knowledge of any such transaction having happened since she had been in the house, that she was discharged; but Squires was committed to New-prison for the robbery, and Wells for aiding and abetting her.

Soon afterwards, Justice Fielding was applied to for a warrant for the apprehension of Hall, and she was examined before that magistrate for six hours, during which she continued in her former declaration. At length the justice said, that, he would examine her no longer, but would commit her to prison, and leave her to stand or fall by the evidence that should be produced against her; and he advised an attorney to prosecute her as a felon.

Hereupon she begged to be heard, and said she would tell the whole truth: and the substance of her declaration was, that Canning had been at Mrs. Wells's, and was robbed in the manner that she herself had declared.

On this Squires and Wells were brought to trial at the Old-Bailey, and convicted, principally on the evidence of Virtue Hall, the first for assaulting and robbing Elizabeth Canning, and the latter for harbouring, concealing and comforting her, well knowing her to have committed the robbery; and John Gibson, William Clark, and Thomas Grevil, having positively sworn that Squires was in Dorsetshire at the time when the robbery was said to have been perpetrated, they were committed to be tried for perjury.

Some gentleman who had heard the trial, being dissatisfied with the evidence, made such application, that a free pardon was granted to Squires.

In the mean time, numbers of people were of opinion that the countrymen had sworn to the truth; and measures were accordingly taken to indict Canning for perjury: but,

at

at the next sessions, his friends preferred bills of indictment against the men. Bills of indictment against the opposite parties being brought at the same time, the grand jury threw them all out; being resolved not to give any countenance to such a scene of perjury as must arise on the one side or the other.

This happened at the sessions in April; but, at the next sessions, in June, bills of indictment were found against the countrymen: these, however, were intended to be removed into the court of King's Bench, by writ of certiorari; but the court refused to grant the writ, alleging, that the indictments ought to be tried at the Old Bailey, because the King's commission of goal-delivery was directed to that court. Hereupon the countrymen were bailed; and, at the sessions held in the month of September following, they were arraigned, but were honourably acquitted, no person appearing to give evidence against them.

Squires being pardoned, and these men thus acquitted, the public opinion of this singular case became still more divided. Every one saw that there must have been perjury in the affair; but it was impossible to determine on which side it lay.

The Lord Mayor of London, at that time, was Sir Crisp Gascoyne, who exerted himself in the most vigilant manner to come at the truth of this mysterious affair; for which, as is but too common, he was abused with a degree of virulence that reflected the highest infamy on his calumniators; for, whatever might be their private opinion, or whatever his own, it was certainly the duty of a good magistrate to endeavour to investigate the truth.

In the month of May, 1754, Elizabeth Canning was indicted at the Old Bailey for wilful and corrupt perjury, in swearing that she had been robbed by Mary Squires. A great number of witnesses swore that Squires was near Abbotsbury at the time that the robbery was said to have been committed: and, on the contrary, more than thirty persons of reputation declared on oath, that Canning's character stood so fair, that they could not conceive her capable of being guilty of such an atrocious crime as wilful perjury.

Ingenious

Ingenious arguments were used by the counsel on each side ; and the jury, after mature deliberation, brought in a verdict, that she was guilty ; in consequence of which she received sentence to be transported for seven years.

No affair that was ever determined in a judicial way did, perhaps, so much excite the curiosity, or divide the opinion of the public, as that in question. The newspapers and magazines were for a long time filled with little else than accounts of Canning and Squires : prints of both parties were published, and bought up with great avidity. Canning was remarkable for what is called the plainness, and Squires for the ugliness, of person ; and perhaps there never was a human face more disagreeable than that of the latter.

We should hardly be thought to exceed the truth, if we were to say that ten thousand quarrels arose from, and fifty thousand wagers were laid on this business. All Great Britain and Ireland seemed to be interested in the event : and the person who did not espouse either one party or the other was thought to have no feeling. The first question in the morning was, “ What news of Canning ? ” and the last squabble at night was, whether she was honest or perjured ; but this, however, could never be determined ; and it will probably remain a mystery as long as the world endures.

Elizabeth Canning was transported to New England on the 31st of July, 1754, having first received some hundreds of pounds collected by the bounty of her friends and partisans.

She was afterwards reputably married in America ; and the news-papers gave notice that she died some years ago in that country.

NICHOL BROWN,

EXECUTED AT EDINBURGH, FOR THE SINGULARLY CRUEL MURDER OF
HIS WIFE.

IN the account given of this man, there is a savage ferocity which has not before come under our notice : for, though we read in Captain Cook's, and other accounts of circum-

circumnavigators, of their meeting with cannibals ; and further, that even civilized men, by dire dint of the excruciating pains of hunger, have slain, and with horrible compunction, eat one of their companions, to support life in the rest ; yet, where shall we find, except in this instance, a savage in the land of civilization, and of plenty, eat human flesh ? Thus said, it no longer remains astonishingly horrible, that such a brute could force his wife into the fire, and burn her to death.

This atrocious brute in human form, was a native of Cramond, a small town near Edinburgh, where he received a school education. At a proper age he was placed with a butcher in that city, and, when his apprenticeship was expired, went to sea in a man of war, and continued in that station four years. The ship being paid off, Brown returned to Edinburgh, and married the widow of a butcher, who had left her a decent fortune.

Soon after this marriage, Brown commenced dealer in cattle, in which he met with such success, that, in the course of a few years, he became possessed of a considerable sum. His success, however, did not inspire him with sentiments of humanity. His temper was so bad, that he was shunned by all serious people of his acquaintance ; for he delighted in fomenting quarrels among his neighbours.

Taking to a habit of drinking, he seldom came home sober at night ; and his wife following his example, he used frequently to beat her for copying his own crime. This conduct rendered both parties obnoxious to their acquaintance ; and the following story of Brown, which may be relied on as a fact, will incontestably evidence the unfeeling brutality of his nature.

About a week after the execution of Norman Ross, already mentioned, for murder, Brown had been drinking with some company at Leith, till, in the height of their jollity, they boasted what extravagant actions they could perform. Brown swore, that he would cut off a piece of flesh from the leg of the dead man, and eat it. His companions, drunk as they were, appeared shocked at the very idea ; while Brown, to prove that he was in earnest, procured a ladder, which he carried to the gibbet, and,

cutting off a piece of flesh from the leg of the deceased, brought it back, broiled, and ate it.

This circumstance was much talked of, but little credit was given to it by the inhabitants of Edinburgh, till Brown's companions gave the fullest testimony of its truth. It will be now proper that we recite the particulars of the shocking crime for which this offender forfeited his life.

After having been drinking at an alehouse in the Cannongate *, he went home about eleven at night, in a high degree of intoxication. His wife was also much in liquor; but, though equally criminal himself, he was so exasperated against her, that he struck her so violently, that she fell from her chair. The noise of her fall alarmed the neighbours; but, as frequent quarrels had happened between them, no immediate notice was taken of the affair.

In about fifteen minutes, the wife was heard to cry out "murder! help! fire! the rogue is murdering me! help, for Christ's sake!" The neighbours now apprehending real danger, knocked at the door: but no person being in the house but Brown and his wife, no admission was granted; and the woman was heard to groan most shockingly †.

A person, looking through the key-hole, saw Brown holding his wife to the fire; on which he was called on to open the door; but neglecting to do so, the candle being extinguished, and the woman still continuing her cries, the door was at length forced open; and, when the neighbours went in, they beheld her a most shocking spectacle, lying half naked before the fire, and her flesh in part broiled. In the interim, Brown had got into bed, pretended to be asleep, and, when spoken to, appeared ig-

* The Cannongate is one of the suburbs of the city of Edinburgh.

† If a transaction of this kind had happened in London, the door would have been burst open in an instant, and the offender apprehended, before he could have completed his design.

At the late dreadful fire in Conduit-street, Hanover-street, London, where some firemen were killed, and others very dangerously wounded, the populace carried the latter to Mr. Hevysides, the surgeon in George-street, very near to the spot of the calamity, who refused to admit them; whereupon they broke open his door, and insisted on his immediately dressing the wounded men.

norant of the transaction. The woman, though so dreadfully burnt, retained her senses, accused her husband of the murder, and told in what manner it was perpetrated. She survived till the following morning, still continuing in the same tale, and then expired in the utmost agony.

Hereupon the murderer was seized, and being lodged in the gaol of Edinburgh, was brought to trial, and capitally convicted.

After sentence, he was allowed six weeks to prepare himself for a future state, agreeable to the custom in Scotland.

He was visited by several divines of Edinburgh, but steadily persisted in the denial of his guilt, affirming that he was ignorant of his wife being burnt, till the door was broken open by the neighbours.

Among others who visited the criminal was the Reverend Mr. Kinloch, an ancient minister, who urging him to confess his crime, received no other reply, than that "if he was to die to-morrow, he would have a new suit of clothes, to appear decently at the gallows." Mr. Kinloch was so affected by his declaration, that he shed tears over the unhappy convict.

On the following day, he was attended to the place of execution by the Reverend Dr. Brown: but to the last he denied having been guilty of the crime for which he suffered.

After execution, he was hung in chains; but the body was stolen from the gibbet, and thrown into a pond, where being found, it was exposed as before. In a few days, however, it was again stolen; and though a reward was offered for its discovery no such discovery was made.

The singular Discovery of the Mail-robber, DAVIS,

EXECUTED AND HUNG IN CHAINS NEAR THE PLACE WHERE HE COMMITTED THE ROBBERY.

THIS man was a tallow-chandler, in Carnaby-market, London, where he had some time carried on business, with apparent credit; until his goods were destrained upon by his landlord, for rent. On taking an inventory thereof,

a pistol was found in a drawer of a bureau, with some parts of bank notes, and several bills of exchange.

The Cirencester mail had been robbed above two years before, and, the customary reward having been in vain advertised, for the discovery of the thief, a suspicion arose, under the circumstances of a man with such property by him suffering his goods to be seized. The property was shown to an officer of the Post-office, who suspected the notes to have been taken out of the mail; but lest he should prove innocent, and the charge be detrimental to him, a stratagem was used to carry him before a magistrate, to answer for some broils in which he had lately been involved. There he was charged with robbing the mail, but which he denied.

When upon the point of being discharged, a person came to the office with a silver tankard, which had been advertised to have been purchased with one of the notes plundered from the mail, of Mr. Harding in the Minorities, and found concealed in Davis's house.

Mr. Harding was then sent for, who swore, that the prisoner purchased it of him. Hereupon he confessed that he knew the person who had robbed the mail, and who, he said, then lay under sentence of death in Newgate.

To this falsehood he was answered, that the person he described, was sentenced only to transportation; upon which he turned pale and was agitated. He was thereupon committed to prison, and a warrant of detainer lodged against the convict whom he had accused.

He was removed by writ of habeas corpus, to Aylesbury, and on the 12th of March, 1755, there brought to trial.

When asked, in the usual form, whether he was guilty, or not guilty, to the charges laid in the indictment; he refused to plead until his irons were taken off. This the court consented to, and he then pleaded, "Not guilty;" but after a trial which occupied five hours, he was convicted.

On the third of April following, he was executed at Gerrard's Cross, in Buckinghamshire, the place where he committed the robbery, and there hung in chains.

Outrage

Outrage of a PRESS-GANG, with the conviction and Punishment of ROBERT ALSOP, a Midshipman, and six Seamen, for committing a Riot in the City of London, and impressing a Citizen thereof.

THE liberty of the subject is, by Magna Charta, declared sacred: yet, the imperious call of war, for seamen to defend our island from a foreign foe, has too often rendered it necessary to seize seamen in the merchants' employ, and force them on board a man of war.

To supply a nation's call, much may be urged on this violation; yet it is pregnant with great mischief to individuals, and no provision is awarded to the sufferer. A ship richly laden, is ready to bend her sails, to carry the industry of our countrymen to a market which cannot be found at home; and at the dead hour of night, often, indeed, as the anchor is weighing, an inexorable gang board her, and carry off her seamen.

The ship thus stripped of the means of ploughing the ocean, frequently, in time of war, remains in port, week after week, waiting for hands, which are often unattainable, by reason of a press of seamen. She lays at the merchant's cost—no demurrage is awarded him—no allowance made for the decay of the cargo—in fact, he is totally without remedy. His servants, the seamen, are forcibly carried off, often without even the solace of their chest, torn away from their wives and children, and compelled to serve against their inclination. But, replies government, private interest must give way to the public weal; and thus commerce, the very essence of our prosperity, is too often cramped for purposes foreign to its interests.

But wherever this violence becomes indispensably necessary, those on whom this duty is imposed, should pay some respect to persons, and perform their unpleasant task with some degree of humanity. The present case exhibits a scene of wanton outrage.

A press-gang, in the year 1755, in a riotous manner, forced themselves into the house of Mr. William Godfrey, a citizen of good repute, and a cooper, of the city of London. They knocked him down, and dragged him through

through the streets, with only one slipper on, and thus forcibly put him on board a king's ship in the river Thames. There he was confined in the hold, among a number of other subjects, where there was a suffocating stench, the effects of which long endangered his life. Twelve hours was he thus confined, to the scandal, as the printed accounts of this lawless baseness of the time said, of all government, and in derogation of the rights and privileges of the city of London. At length, the Lord Mayor interposing his authority, Mr. Godfrey was released, and his friends set about the laudable task of bringing those spoilers to condign punishment.

Robert Alsop, William Sturges, John Dodsey, Frederick Offler, James Williamson, Charles Powell, and Benjamin Tidsdale, a part of this press-gang, were indicted, and committed to prison.

Being brought to trial at the Guildhall of the city of London, Sturges and Dodsey having surrendered themselves, and pleading for mercy, were acquitted ; but the others found guilty.

While the court was deliberating on the punishment to be inflicted on them, some officers of government interceded, and prayed that their country might not long be deprived of their services against the French, then at war with us ; and in consequence thereof, and on their knees suing for mercy, backed by Mr. Godfrey's generous forgiveness, they were only sentenced to ten days' imprisonment.

Various are the arts practised by those likely to serve the king, and sea-faring men, to avoid the press-gang. A humorous device for this purpose was used at a place called Salt Coats, in the West of Scotland, during the American war, where a company of young men and maids, having met to be merry, an impress officer in the neighbourhood thought it a fit opportunity to pick up some useful hands, to serve his majesty.

Accordingly, with his gang, assisted by a party of soldiers, the barn in which they were dancing was invested. Their approach being discovered, the doors and windows were barricaded, and resistance declared.

Being unwilling, however, to come to extremities,
while

while the girls were in danger, a parley was demanded and granted, and the women were to depart unmolested. In the mean time the young men and maids had changed clothes ; and when the press-gang and soldiers entered, they found, to their mortification, that the females, on that occasion, all wore the breeches !

HENRY SAMUEL,

A Jew, punished for breaking the Christian Sabbath.

At the same sessions wherein Alsop the midshipman, and the seamen were found guilty of committing a riot, this unbeliever was convicted of being a sabbath-breaker and profaner of the Lord's Day, in permitting card-playing on Sunday, at his house in Duke's-Place, for which crime he was fined thirteen shillings and four-pence, and imprisoned three months in Wood-Street Compter.

The son of Israel pleaded, that Sunday was not his sabbath ; but it was replied, that as he was permitted, unmolested, to turn Saturday into Sunday, he surely might behave with decency on the Christian's day of rest and prayer.

Thus Jews, in a Christian country, lose a day in each week : but, aided by activity and cunning, they frequently do more (in their way) in five days, than we do in six.

JOHN BERRY, STEPHEN M'DANIEL, JAMES EGAN, JAMES SALMON, and — BLEE,

A new Species of Murderers, and a most horrid Gang of Conspirators.

WE should have supposed that these pages had already disclosed the horrid crime of murder, under every hellish impulse of the mind ; but, here we find the shedding of innocent blood carried on in a course of systematic wickedness.

When

When a nation has been long engaged in foreign wars, and then suddenly concludes a peace, what proved a national happiness, is a sad misfortune to thousands of brave soldiers and seamen, who had long made

“The flinty couch of war
“Their thrice-driven bed of down.”

Dismissed from the “trade of war,” with no other reward than their arrear of wages, which is ever quickly dissipated, what are they to do?—Where are they to turn to procure an honest livelihood? Whenever the blessings of peace are granted to this nation, a great number of men are let loose totally unprovided for, and hence, as “hunger will break through stone walls,” it too frequently becomes our duty, on those occasions, to record the mischief that ensues.

The peace of the year 1749 produced a greatly increased calendar in each county-goal in the kingdom; and to prevent the great increase of robbers, government deemed it expedient to offer additional rewards for apprehending those, who, in certain cases, had been guilty of violation of the law.

It will hardly be credited, that so diabolical a conspiracy could be engendered in the mind of man, as that of enticing innocent youths to commit a robbery, and then apprehending them, for the sake of that reward, thus making a very trade of human blood. But yet, this damnable plot was long successfully carried on, and many an innocent man fell a victim to the pretended violated laws of the country.

It will, by some, from the above comments on the effects of a peace, be naturally conjectured, that the conspirators were discharged soldiers or sailors. No, thank God, the worst offence we have to charge them with, and those, perhaps, committed through the calls of distress, fall infinitely short of these men's crimes. In the hard hearts of THIEF-TAKERS alone, could such a deed be planned, and by none less callous to humanity, could such a murderous scheme to amass money, be carried into execution.

The head, or captain, as they dignified him, was Berry,
a runner,

a runner, or, as commonly denominated a "Thief-taker," who lived at the bottom of what was then called George-yard, at the bottom of Hatton-Garden, and Blee was his servant.

M^r Daniel had kept a public-house in Holborn; Egan had been a shoemaker, in Drury-lane; and Salmon, a leather-breeches-maker, in Drury-lane.

These villains, horrid to relate, conspired together, in accusing innocent people of crimes which took away life, for the reward so offered. Various were the diabolical plans they laid for this purpose.

At one time, they enticed two victims to join them in committing a highway robbery, upon one of their own gang, a third was to purchase the stolen goods; and the other was to apprehend the intended victims, permitting his accomplice, who had been concerned in the robbery, to escape, and then to join the party robbed and the receiver in the prosecution. But if, through the information of the other two, the thief-taker, who proposed and assisted in the robbery, was apprehended, then, in order to preserve him, the prosecution was not supported.

These villains exhibited an accusation of robbery against two young men, named Newman and March. Upon their trial, they related the manner in which they had been seduced; but the evidence of the thief-takers was so strong, that they were convicted and suffered death.

A poor man named Tyler, was met by one of the gang, who said he would make him a present of a horse, for which he had no further occasion. The unfortunate man joyfully received the horse from his apparently generous benefactor; by whom he was advised to take the beast to an inn in Smithfield, there to be taken care of till he should determine in what manner to dispose of him. Before he could reach Smithfield, he was seized by Egan, who took him before the sitting alderman; and it being sworn that he had stolen the horse, he was committed to Newgate, and soon afterwards hanged. In the year 1753, they charged an innocent man, named Woodland, with felony; and he was committed, and sentenced to suffer death: but he was so fortunate as to receive a pardon, on condition of transportation. The villains, however, claim-

ed, and actually received, the reward, in consequence of their having prosecuted him to conviction.

Joshua Kidden, whom we shall hereafter mention, was the next who fell a sacrifice to their abominable artifices. It would be tedious to recount the particulars relating to the many people who suffered death through the false evidence of these atrocious villains ; and especially as the several cases bear much similarity to each other. We shall now proceed to a narrative of the fact of which they were convicted.

The money obtained by the conviction of Kidden being nearly expended, they employed themselves in concerting new schemes of villany for recruiting their finances. It was determined to employ a man named Blee, a fellow of abandoned principles, who had for some time acted as an assistant to Berry, in attending in the fields about Islington till he could decoy two idle boys to consent to join him in a robbery.

They all held a meeting in an arbour belonging to a public-house, the sign of Sir John Oldecastle, in the neighbourhood of Islington, where they appointed the time for committing the robbery, and that it should be near Deptford, on account of the inhabitants of Greenwich having advertised twenty pounds for the apprehending any highwayman or footpad, in addition to the reward allowed by parliament. Their wicked plan being settled, they separated ; for, lest they should be suspected of holding an improper correspondence, they were particularly careful not to be seen together, where there was a probability of their persons being known.

The time for holding the assizes being arrived, Mr. Cox, having a warrant for apprehending Berry, Salmon, M'Daniel, and Egan, went to Maidstone, having Blee in custody. Mr. Cox waited till the conclusion of the trial, but had no sooner heard the foreman of the jury pronounce the prisoners guilty, than he caused the four iniquitous accomplices to be taken into custody. They obstinately persisted in declaring themselves innocent ; and even when confronted with Blee, denied having the least knowledge of him : but, on the following day, they severally requested to be admitted evidences for the crown ;
in

in this neither of them was indulged, the evidence of Blee being deemed sufficient for their conviction.

They were removed to London, in order for trial, as being accessaries before the fact. The jury were not able to determine whether the prisoners came within the description of the statutes fourth and fifth of Philip and Mary, or third and fourth of William and Mary, and therefore referred the case to the decision of the twelve judges.

The special verdict being brought to a hearing before the judges in the hall of Serjeant's-inn, counsel was heard on both sides, and it was unanimously determined that the offences charged against the prisoners did not come within the meaning of the statutes above mentioned: but orders were given for indicting them for a conspiracy.

An indictment being found against them, they were again put to the bar at the Old-Bailey, and the evidences exhibited against them on their former trial being recapitulated, the jury pronounced them guilty, and they were sentenced to be punished in the following manner: Berry and M'Daniel to stand on the pillory, once at the end of Hatton-garden in Holborn, and once at the end of King-street in Cheapside; Salmon and Egan to stand once in the middle of West-Smithfield, and the second time at the end of Fetter-lane, in Fleet-street; and all to be imprisoned in Newgate for the space of seven years; and upon the expiration of that time not to be discharged without finding sureties to be bound in the penalties of a thousand pounds each for their good behaviour for the seven following years.

March the 5th, 1756, M'Daniel and Berry were set on the pillory at the end of Hatton-garden and were so severely treated by the populace that their lives were supposed to be in danger.

Egan and Salmon were taken to Smithfield on Monday, the eighth of the same month, amidst a surprising concourse of people, who, no sooner saw the offenders exposed on the pillory, than they pelted them with stones, brick-bats, potatoes, dead dogs and cats, and other things. The constables now interposed; but being soon overpowered, the offenders were left wholly to the mercy of

an enraged mob. The blows they received occasioned their heads to swell to an enormous size; and by people hanging to the skirts of their clothes they were nearly strangled. They had been on the pillory about half an hour, when a stone striking Egan on the head, he immediately expired.

This man's fate, however illegally he met his death, will cause but little sorrow; yet, living under wholesome laws, we would not, even on such a wretch as Egan, see punishment inflicted, except through the sentence of a court.

The sheriffs, fearing that should the survivors be again exposed to the vengeance of an enraged people, they would share the fate of their companion in iniquity, the remainder of the sentence of pillory was on that account remitted: but the length of their sentence of imprisonment, added to the great amount of the sureties for their good behaviour after the expiration thereof, might have been considered tantamount to imprisonment for life; a fate well suited to such mischievous, hard-hearted, and unrelenting villains.

They however, soon died in Newgate, thus ridding the world of the bulk of this terrific gang.

JOSHUA KIDDEN,

A Victim to the horrid Conspirators, whose Crimes and Punishments were before described.

WE have already given the names of some of the devoted victims of these conspiring men of blood; but as they were chiefly selected from the very lowest part of society, further particulars of their unhappy cases are lost in obscurity.

The youth now the subject of our melancholy tale, was in a superior rank of life to his innocent fellow-sufferers; and, like them, it will be found, had taken no part in the pretended robbery of which he was accused.

The father of Kidden, was a reputable watch-maker in
London,

London, and having given his son a classical education, bound him apprentice to an apothecary.

It however appeared, that idleness, the mother of all ill, was very evident in the youth ; hence he was soon discontented with culling simples and pounding roots. He now thought the watery element might better suit his lazy turn ; and accordingly his indulgent parent procured him a situation as a petty officer in the royal navy, where he remained during six years.

Having now returned to his paternal home, his father, fondly hoping that he had settled his mind to a sea-faring life, procured masters to instruct him in the theoretical parts of navigation, and every other branch of that art ; but he neglected his opportunity, and hung about his father, a useless and expensive burden ; yet, we find no propensity in him to dishonesty.

At length, somewhat arousing from his apathy, he made an essay to earn his own bread, and for that purpose ranged himself among the porters, at the end of Fleet-Market ; for he had neglected to acquire any trade or business.

Going one evening, after the toil of a hard day's work, to regale himself with the London labourer's most wholesome beverage, porter, he was unfortunately marked by the villain Blee, one of the gang last mentioned, who conceived him a fit object upon whom to exercise his hellish design.

Kidden, who had uncertain employ, told Blee that he was in want of work ; and the latter engaging to procure some for him, got him lodgings in an alley in Chick-lane, where he continued from Friday till the following Monday, when he was told that there was a job at Tottenham to remove some effects of a gentleman, which would otherwise be seized for rent.

At the time appointed, Kidden and Blee went to Tottenham ; and having waited at a public-house till the approach of night, Blee went out, with a pretence of speaking to the gentleman whose goods were to be removed ; but, on his return, said that the business could not be transacted that night.

They now quitted the public-house, and proceeded towards

wards London, after Blee had given Kidden eighteen-pence, as a compensation for the loss of his day's work. On the London side of Tottenham they observed a chaise, and a woman sitting on the side of the road near it. Kidden asked her if she was going to London; she replied in the affirmative; but he walked forwards, paying no attention to what she said, till he heard Blee call him back, demanding to know why he walked so fast. Kidden turning back, observed that Blee was robbing the woman; on which he declined a nearer approach, disdaining to have any concern in such a transaction: but Blee, running up to him, said, "I have got the money:" and would have prevailed on him to take half a crown; but this he declined.

Blee then desired Kidden not to leave him; and the latter staying two or three minutes, a thief-taker, named M'Daniel, rushed from a hedge, and seizing Kidden, told him that he was his prisoner.

The woman thus pretendedly robbed was one Mary Jones; and all the parties going before a magistrate, it was positively sworn that Kidden was the robber, and that he took twenty-five shillings from the woman; on which he was committed to Newgate.

Mary Jones, the woman supposed to have been robbed, lodged in Broker's-alley, Drury-lane; and the friends and relations of Kidden, assured in their own minds of his innocence, went thither to enquire after her character, which they found to be so totally abandoned, that they had no doubt but that the whole was a pre-concerted plot for his destruction.

When the trial came on, Mary Jones and two thief-takers swore positively to the unhappy lad, who was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die; and a report was industriously circulated that he had committed several robberies as a footpad: but this was only the effort of villany, to depreciate the character of an innocent man in order to receive the reward for his conviction, which was actually paid.

After sentence of death was passed, Kidden made a constant, uniform, and solemn avowal of his innocence. He told how the thief-takers had imposed on him; and his

his tale was universally credited, when it was too late to save him from the fatal consequences of their villainous devices.

Repeated applications were made that mercy might be extended to the unhappy convict ; but these were in vain. The warrant for his execution arrived, and he resigned to his fate in the most becoming manner, lamenting the present disgrace that his relations would undergo, but entertaining no doubt that the decrees of Providence would soon give ample testimony of his innocence.

He resigned his life to the executioner, after pathetically addressing the multitude, and declaring again his innocence, in the year 1756, greatly lamented.

From a comparison of the circumstances of the case of Kidden, and other miserable youths whom this destructive gang, under pretence of being thief-takers, for the ends of justice, had given evidence against, we fear there is too much reason to believe that many more than those we have mentioned, fell victim to their crimes.

There is, however, this moral to be drawn, and an example set before us, in the relation of these fell deeds. They fixed upon idle youths as their prey.—Thus our unthinking children, may hence see, that a watch is set upon idlers, and such as disobey their parents. In this case, the Devil, who was personated in these thief-takers, could not have devoured the industrious apprentice, and moral young men, nor have brought his friends to shame.

CHRISTOPHER WOODLAND.

Another Victim to the horrid Gang of Thief-takers.

“ Ah ! little think the gay licentious proud,
 “ Whom pleasure, power, and affluence surround ;
 “ They, who their thoughtless hours in giddy mirth,
 “ And wanton, often cruel, riot, waste ;
 “ Ah ; little think they, while they dance along,
 “ How many feel, this very moment, death,
 “ And all the sad variety of pain.”

THOMSON.

THE cases of the wretched men who fell victims to the horrid plots of the thief-takers already mentioned, shew what

what variety of arts had been adopted by them, in seeking the innocent blood of their fellow-creatures.

The fate of Woodland is, however, deserving of much less pity than that of Kidden; the former consented to join in a burglary, which, though a trap laid for him, proved that he was a thief, ready to join any hardened gang of robbers.

They thus practised upon Woodland. Berry, the head of the gang, hired a single room of one Mr. Eveness, on Saffron-hill, ostensibly for James Egan, another of the gang. They put into this room some mean articles of furniture, and thus made the place suited to their purpose. Then Berry, M'Donald, Egan, and Mary Jones, who had now become associated with them, ordered Blee to procure a victim, who might join some of them in robbing this room.

Blee, ever the drudge of the gang, pitched upon a half-witted fellow, the immediate subject of the present enquiry.

Egan, who had been a shoemaker, took possession of the room, and hammered upon his lapstone; not to mend soles, but to make souls arise from the bodies of his victims. Blee intoxicated Woodland, and then proposed what he called a plan to ensure the road to wealth. The sot, delighted with the offer, readily joined him, in breaking into the shoemaker's room, where he was assured a large booty might be obtained.

Woodland committed the burglary, and was followed by Blee. He seized some bundles of clothes, placed there for the purpose, and was advised by his deceitful companion, to offer them for sale to Mary Jones. The gang rushed into her apartment, seized Woodland, but permitted Blee to escape. They took him before a justice of the peace, swore to the burglary, and consequently he was committed to Newgate.

As no other offence appeared against him, and from his not appearing an old offender, the capital part of the indictment, the burglary, was not pressed: and he was found guilty alone of stealing.

This disappointed the gang of their aim at the reward,
being

being sentenced to transportation only, and was sent to America.

*BLI GONZALEZ, alias JOHN SYMMONDS,
alias SPANISH JACK,*

EXECUTED AT MAIDSTONE, APRIL 18, 1756, FOR STEALING A SILVER
TANKARD.

GONZALEZ was descended of reputable parents residing at Alicant, in Spain, who were exceeding careful of his education, intending him for holy orders; but all their hopes in him were disappointed, for he absconded from school, and entered on board a man of war. Having remained some years in this station, he engaged on board a ship of war belonging to England, and sailed up the Levant.

After staying some time at Alexandria, Smyrna, and other places, the ship put into Gibraltar, and was ordered to be laid up; in consequence of which he entered on board a Dutch vessel. He served in several English privateers during the war; and, when peace was restored, joined one of the gangs of smugglers that infested the coast of Kent and Sussex.

His connections among the English induced him to change his name to John Symmonds, by which appellation we shall hereafter distinguish him.

Having acquired a sum of money, he repaired to London, and formed an acquaintance with a number of people of both sexes, of the most wicked and abandoned characters.

Having spent his money in scenes of riot and intoxication, he obtained credit for divers small sums from different people, whom he amused by assuring them that he was entitled to prize-money, on the receipt of which he would pay them.

His creditors becoming importunate for their money, he formed the resolution of going again to sea; but not being able to enter into such advantageous engagements as he expected, he became acquainted with an infamous

gang of robbers, and joined in their iniquitous practices. They committed a variety of robberies in the fields near Stepney; but none of them were attended with circumstances sufficiently remarkable for recital.

As Symmonds was passing along Rag-fair, he was seized by a person whom he, in conjunction with other villains, had robbed the preceding evening. This event occasioned him to reflect on his dangerous situation; and judging that, if he continued his illegal courses, he could not long escape detection, he determined to give information against his accomplices.

He communicated his design to M'Daniel, and accompanied him and other thief-takers one evening to a house where they were drinking, when Mandevile, Holmes, and Newton, were taken into custody; but two others of the gang escaped through a window. Mandevile, Holmes, and Newton, were convicted on the evidence of Symmonds, and executed in October, 1751, at Tyburn.

For the apprehension of the three malefactors above-mentioned, the thief-takers received a reward of four hundred and twenty pounds, of which they allowed the evidence only ten pounds; and, by various contrivances, they kept him in custody till he had expended all but thirty shillings of that sum. They imagined that they might obtain further emolument through his means; and therefore endeavoured to keep him in a state of poverty, that he might be the more readily induced to return to his former practices, expecting that he would betray his new accomplices into the fate suffered by Mandevile, Holmes, and Newton.

Symmonds had for some time lived on terms of great intimacy with Anthony and Emanuel De Rosa, the murderers of Mr. Fargues, the particulars of whose unfortunate death we have already recorded. Having engaged to go on the highway with Dissent and Branch (executed for the murder of Mr. Brown), they called at his lodgings; but the girl with whom he cohabited dissuaded him from accompanying them. Upon seeing the watch and other property stolen from Mr. Brown, he regretted his yielding to the persuasions of the girl, and upbraided her as the cause of his losing a share of so valuable a booty.

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The many robberies he had committed in London, and its adjacencies, having rendered him so notorious, that he thought himself in great danger of being apprehended, he determined to go into the country. Having travelled to Rochester, he formed an acquaintance with a fellow named Smith, who was publicly known to live by felonious practices.

Symmonds and Smith went to a public-house in Rochester, and while they were drinking some punch, found an opportunity of concealing a silver tankard, which they carried off unperceived. On the following day they were apprehended, and committed to Maidstone-gaol; Symmonds to be tried for stealing the tankard, and Smith to appear as evidence for the crown.

While Symmonds was under sentence of death, he acknowledged, that till he was convinced the term of his life was nearly expired, he had not reflected on the most important consequences that would result from his iniquitous proceedings; and that, if he had escaped conviction, he should have returned to his usual practices. He appeared to repent of his former wickedness with unfeigned sincerity, and expressed hopes of forgiveness through the merits of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

From the prison to the place of execution, he was seriously employed in prayer, and when under the gallows he warned the people to guard against following such courses as had produced his destruction. After some time spent in devout prayer with a reverend divine, the executioner put in force the sentence of the law.

LIEUTENANT JOHN LANDER,

EXECUTED ON PENNENDEN HEATH, IN KENT, AUG. 16, 1756, FOR MURDER.

SOME of the youths designed for the army, the instant they mount the cockade, are vain enough to imagine that their commission gives them the ascendancy over civil men; in short, that scarlet makes them a superior kind of being; and thus self-sufficient, they assume *an heauteur*, which, instead of giving them that importance they would attain,

attain, serves only to render them objects of contempt. If, in the present day, such mistaken subalterns may be found, we can only assure them, that modesty of behaviour and diffidence alone will make them respected by the peaceful inhabitant of the towns wherein they may be quartered.

John Lander was a lieutenant in the garrison of Chatham, and having just received a month's pay, agreed with another officer, wild and unthinking as himself, to set off to London.

For this purpose they hired a post-chaise, and ordered the post-boy to drive at full speed, or they would run him through the body. The first stage, the boy, thus intimidated, whipt the poor horses, until he broke their wind, which proved infinite sport to the inhuman fellows whom they dragged after them.

At Dartford they changed horses, and no sooner were they clear of the town, than they repeated the word of command, to the fresh boy, who accordingly urged the poor horses to their speed. At the foot of Shooter's-hill he slackened his pace, when they vociferated to him to drive the same pace. On his answering, the horses could not gallop up the hill, they jumped out of the chaise, and one of the degraded officers knocked the poor boy down, when Lander drawing his sword, ran him through the body, with such force, that it actually pinioned him to the ground.

This ungovernable and base transaction of course impeded their journey. Instead of revelling in London, they were sent to Rochester gaol, and brought to trial, when Lander was found guilty of wilful murder.

WILLIAM CANNICOTT,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, SEPTEMBER 20, 1756, FOR THE MURDER OF HIS WIFE.

WILLIAM CANNICOTT was about forty years of age, and had been a livery servant from a youth, though his parents, who were substantial people, would fain have had him learn a trade.

When he was about twenty years old, he married Dorothy Tamlyn, a woman near forty years of age, with whom he had lived fellow servant; and soon after he set her up in a little haberdasher's shop, in Boswell-court. This shop she kept near ten years, and Cannicott being then servant to the late Admiral Matthews, took a house for her in East-street, and furnished it to be let out into lodgings.

Till about three years before, he says, they lived peaceably, if not happily, together; but it then happened, that in his absence, and without his knowledge, she sold two suits of his best cloaths, though she had no reasonable pretence or provocation; for he constantly gave her all his money, and she received, without any account, the profits that arose from the house. Cannicott was naturally passionate, and coming in haste one day to put on a suit of these cloaths upon a particular occasion, he was so exasperated to find they had been sold by his wife, that he swore he would never come home to her any more.

It is probable, that this incident only gave colour to break a connection which he had no inclination to continue; for he kept the resolution which he had declared in his passion, after that passion had subsided; and when he was next out of place, which happened soon afterwards, he took himself a lodging in a distant part of the town, instead of going home to his wife, though he still continued to give her his money.

In this new neighbourhood he was of course considered as a single man; a mistake that he was rather desirous to countenance than correct, because he knew that as a single man he was more likely to get into place than as married; and indeed he was soon after hired to a gentleman in Cavendish-square, who declared that he would not
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hire a married man ; so that he was from that time under a kind of necessity to deny that he had a wife. After the first deviation from truth a man is almost necessarily, though insensibly, led to deviate farther and farther from the strait path at every step. As the women were less upon their guard against him, he was encouraged to indulge himself in the pleasure of such addresses as would not otherwise have been permitted ; and thus engagements are often brought on which were never formerly designed, and connections are gradually strengthened merely because the difficulty of breaking them gradually increases. Among Cannicott's fellow servants there was a young woman that waited upon his master's daughter, to whom he found a secret pleasure in recommending himself by many little acts of kindness, with which he saw she was pleased, and which he therefore repeated with greater assiduity and delight, though he declares he had then no design to seduce her, either as a mistress or a wife ; yet his regard for her grew every day more tender, as he became more acquainted with her. He loved her, he says, not only for her person but for her mind, which was continually improved by the free conversation of her amiable lady. Still, however, he avoided every thing that had a direct tendency to make him be regarded as a lover ; but here happened two incidents, which joining with his inclinations, and the facility with which he saw it might be gratified, overbore all his resolutions. As love is always vigilant and suspicious, he discovered that his master had a design upon her virtue, and that at the same time she was addressed by a young man, who would have married her, and whom he thought she would consent to marry, if he did not profit of the influence he had over her by soliciting her for himself. In this situation he determined to gain her if it was possible, let the consequence be what it would. From this time his courtship commenced, and the girl sincerely believing he had no other connection, consented to have him. When this was agreed he resolved to leave his place, because the girl would not consent to conceal her marriage from her lady, nor would her lady part with her upon that account, and because his master would notwithstanding think it a sufficient reason

reason to part with him. In pursuance of this scheme he hired himself to the Earl of Darnley, and on the third of June, 1754, he married his new wife at Marybone chapel.

He went into Lord Darnley's place the same day, and his wife continued in her's a twelvemonth after they were married, and might have continued there longer, if her master had not pursued his design with more importunity than before, notwithstanding the declaration of her marriage, which, upon that account, as well as others, she had determined to make as soon as it should have taken place. As these solicitations made her very uneasy she complained of them to her husband, and he advised her to give warning. She immediately followed his counsel, but staid five months longer to oblige her lady, who was very desirous she should go with her to Bath. When they came back, and her master found that she was determined to go, and that another maid had been engaged in her stead, he was so enraged at his disappointment, that he would scarce suffer her to stay long enough in the house to put her cloaths together. When she was come away Cannicott hired a lodging for her as near him as he could, that he might spend every leisure minute in her company; and he perceived, he says, with unspeakable pleasure, an excessive fondness in her which increased his own; and he believes it is impossible for any two persons to be more happy in each other than they were, except when his fears anticipated her discovery of his former marriage.

This event so much dreaded, and so carefully guarded against, in a short time put an end to their felicity, and made the wife, who was deserted, yet more wretched than before. Such is the constant and the known effect of that officious malignity, which is still curious to discover, and zealous to publish breaches of the matrimonial contract; yet it is still suffered by a common confederacy in the guilt, to escape not only infamy but censure, under the mask of integrity and friendship.

One Hobson, a coachman in Lord Darnley's family, knew Cannicott when he lived in another place, and knew also his first wife. It happened, that the wife of this Hobson had become acquainted with some person in
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the house where Cannicott had taken a lodging for his second wife, and thus discovered the secret. His second wife, however, she did not know where to find, for she had removed into the country when Cannicott went out of town with his Lord, and was not yet returned; but word was immediately sent to his wife, and she took every opportunity to haunt and reproach her husband with his new connection. This, he says, made him extremely wretched, not only because it was irksome in itself, but because it kept him in continual dread and solicitude, lest they should find out his favourite, and interrupt her peace, as they had interrupted his. As his fears increased, so did his caution; he took another lodging for his young wife, whom he calls Nanny, at a considerable distance, and required her never to call, on any pretence, where she had lodged before; with this request, he says, she cheerfully complied, without knowing or enquiring why it was made; but her old landlady once meeting her by chance, dogged her home, and immediately acquainted Hobson and his wife where she lodged, who with great expedition sent Mrs. Cannicott to acquaint her with her situation. Here was an end to all the stolen felicity at once; Nanny, at the next interview, reproached him; but she reproached him, he says, with such tenderness as shewed less anger than love. She was overwhelmed with grief, and, as often as she could find words, she entreated that he would never attempt to see her more, but leave her to struggle alone with her misfortunes, and endeavour to get into another place. He could not consent to leave her, but he promised to procure her a place. This indeed he attempted, but without success; for it was necessary to refer to her last master for a character, and he, besides telling that she was married, suggested several faults that might conceal the true reason why she left the place. She then urged him to let her go abroad, but this he opposed with the utmost vehemence; and declared that he would destroy himself if she attempted it.

She had twice removed her lodging, and was still followed by Mrs. Cannicott, who acquainted the neighbourhood with her story. Nanny, therefore, would not suffer Cannicott to visit her in her lodgings, where it was
known

known she could not be his lawful wife; and though he persuaded her sometimes to meet him early in the morning, yet, as it was chiefly in the street, that afforded him no pleasure.

Hobson and his wife in the mean time fomented the difference between Cannicott and his first wife, telling her that he had received his wages, and urging her to solicit him for more money. This she did, with threats of prosecution if he refused, saying, that she could and would hang him for having two wives.

As he believed this to be in her power, he restrained his aversion, for fear she should execute it, and therefore appointed to meet her on Thursday evening at the Red-Lion in Berkeley-square, to take a little walk. He declares, that in making this appointment he had no design upon her life, but that being obliged to put up at a public-house near Tottenham-Court, by a sudden storm of thunder and rain, she asked him for money, which he refusing to give her, she had recourse first to expostulation, then reproach, and then threatening, which threw him into a dreadful rage, in the midst of which he broke away from her, and she followed him. That as they were going down stairs, he saw a cord hang over the banisters, upon which he conceived a design to use it as an instrument to murder her, and therefore snatched it up and put it into his pocket; when they got out of the house, they went towards home, though the storm increased and it thundered and lightened very much. Her passion had probably abated while his was at the height, as it often happens that the mind relents immediately after expressions of too keen reproach, which render a reconciliation on the other side for a time impossible. This appears to have been the case here, for she twice desired him to let down his hat, that the lightening might not hurt his eyes; this he refused the first time, but the last time seemed to consent, and bidding her go on, took that opportunity not to flap his hat, but to prepare the cord for the murder; and it is surely an horrid aggravation of his guilt, that he made the voice of kindness a signal to silence it for ever, and prepared to perpetrate the greatest injury against his wife while he seemed to be profiting by her solicitude to do

him good. When he had formed the cord to his purpose, having tied a noose in one end, and passed the other end through it, he walked apace after her, and coming behind her, threw it over her head and drew it tight. She immediately seized it with her hands, and struggled so hard that the cord broke, and he feared she would overpower him. He then thought of his scissars, and drawing them from the sheath, he thrust them many times into her throat and body, upon which her grasp relaxed, and she soon expired.

As soon as he saw she was dead, his passion subsided in a moment, and he was so struck with the horror of what he had done, that he fell down in a swoon, though he cannot tell how long he continued in it; when he came to himself he began to think how he might conceal the fact; he stripped her, and scattered her cloaths, which he cut to pieces, in different places as he went along.

About ten o'clock he got home extremely wet, and immediately retiring to the place where he cleaned his glasses, he washed the blood from the ruffles and sleeves of his shirt, and putting it into the foul cloaths bag, went to bed. The next morning, his lordship being out of town, he went out and bought a new pair of scissars, having left the others in the field near the body, and he sold the ring and buckles, which he brought away; he did not return home till night, and was then told by his fellow servants, that Justice Fielding had sent for him upon a suspicion of murder, and advised, if he was guilty, not to come in; but he insisted upon his innocence, and when Mr. Welch came soon after, he was denied. Next morning, however, he went with the butler, to Mr. Barnes, the high constable, in order, as he said, to clear himself.

He was examined by the justices, and though many circumstances appeared against him, yet the first day he confessed nothing; but the next day, finding that they had found out his second wife, and confined her upon suspicion that she had been accessory to the fact, he immediately accused himself, that she might be discharged; and having fully disclosed the whole affair, he pleaded guilty at his trial, and died with great penitence and resignation.

CHARLES

CHARLES FREDERICK WYSENTHALL,

TRANSPORTED IN THE YEAR 1756, FOR SUBORNATION OF PERJURY.

THIS was a foreigner, and a very bad character. He was a Dresden lace-maker, took female apprentices to his business, and a most unworthy master he proved himself; constantly corrupting their morals, and violating their persons.

He was tried at the Old Bailey, on the 4th of May, 1756, charged with subornation of perjury. Inasmuch as the receiver of stolen goods is by the law considered criminal as the thief, so the suborner of perjury is equally guilty of the destructive crime, as the man who himself takes a false oath.

The offence of Wysenthall was marked with every aggravation. Two of his apprentices, whom he had debauched, he influenced to swear a rape against an innocent man, whom they had never known even by sight. As this offence, if fully proved, affects life, this villain deserved a halter; but he was only sentenced to a year's imprisonment in Newgate, and at the expiration thereof, to be transported for life to the plantations in America.

The Rev. JOHN GRIERSON and the Rev. Mr. WILKINSON,

TRANSPORTED FOR UNLAWFULLY PERFORMING THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

A RIGHT had long been exercised by the clergy, in solemnizing marriage, without any previous ceremony, in certain places claiming privilege for that purpose.

This exclusive kind of spiritual monopoly, was pursued with much eagerness by the lower order of the clergy, who carried on, for a number of years, a *marriage-making trade*, to the destruction of many thousands of the younger part of society. To these base temples of Hymen, the

keen old widow would seduce the unwary heir-at-law ; the fortune-hunter grasp his prize ; nay, that imitative imp of profligacy, the saucy footman, has trepanned his young lady, to the Fleet, the Savoy, or some other place prostituted to such purposes ; where all that applied, and offered a piece of gold, were married, “ and no questions asked.”

The mischief increased to such a degree, that it behoved Parliament to interfere ; accordingly, a law was passed, which enacted,

“ That if a marriage should be solemnized in any other place within the Isle, or dominion thereof, than in a church, unless by special licence, or without having banns published, or licence obtained from some person properly authorised, the marriage shall be void ; and the person who solemnized it, if he lawfully exercises any ministerial function within the Isle, shall be transported for fourteen years ; and if he be a foreigner or stranger, and not of the ministry of the Isle, he is to be exposed, with his ears nailed to the pillory, on the next court of general gaol delivery after conviction, from twelve to one o'clock, and his ears are to be cut off, and he be turned into prison, until it shall be thought fit to release him, on his paying a fine of fifty pounds.”

Notwithstanding the severe penalties for offences against this law, priests were found hardy enough, under a little better bribe, to continue tacking couples together, as horses are yoked to the plough ; in fact, one ceremony was just as *honest* as the other, and equally binding upon the lady, to “ love, honour, and obey.”

The avaricious fellow before us, John Grierson (for the bishop soon stripped him of his gown) had thus illegally, that is, after passing the act above-quoted, pretended to marry upwards of fourteen hundred couple ! whose offspring consequently were illegitimate. Thus entailing misery on the parents, and disinheriting the children.

Grierson was only the deputy parson of the Savoy. The Reverend Mr. Wilkinson was the principal, who winked at, and shared the unlawful spoil.

When Grierson was apprehended, Wilkinson, for a while, consulted his safety in flight. After the conviction
and

and transportation of his curate, he again appeared, under a confidence that he could not be implicated, not having himself performed the mock ceremony. But the law taught this unworthy divine, that an accessory is equally guilty with the thief; and sent him after his brother in iniquity, to preach to the convicts and savages in America.

They were shipped off to the plantations in the year 1756.

EDWARD MORGAN,

EXECUTED AND HUNG IN CHAINS, AT GLAMORGAN, APRIL 6, 1757, FOR
MURDER.

THOUGH we have shewn the perpetrator of this most foul crime under the cursed impulse of rage, jealousy, avarice, and revenge; yet have we to adduce one, resulting more from wantonness than a propensity to thieving—a murder marked with the basest ingratitude and perfidy.

The hospitality of the Welch is proverbial; and their Christmas feasts are open to all visitors. What villain could pollute the festive board? Where, we would ask, could be found the man, who would suck the blood of his generous host and his family, and that host a near relation? Sorry are we to acknowledge, that such a monster have we found in a Welchman.

The circumstance which came out on the trial of Edward Morgan, at the assizes of Glamorgan, were these: According to annual custom he had been invited by Mr. Rees Morgan, of Lanvabon, his cousin, to spend the Christmas holidays. He had partaken of the first day's festivity, and retired to bed along with a young man, apprentice to Mr. Rees Morgan. No sooner had he laid his head upon the pillow, to use his own expression, than the devil whispered him to get up and murder the whole family, and he determined to obey.

He first made an attempt on the apprentice, his bed-fellow, but he struggled so far as to effect his escape and hid himself. The murderer then provided himself with a
knife,

knife, which he sharpened on a stone, deliberately as the butcher uses his steel.

Thus prepared, he softly crept to the bed-chamber of his host and hostess, and cut their throats in their sleep; then he proceeded to the bed of their beautiful daughter, with whom the monster had but an hour before been sporting and playing, and with equal expedition, and by the same means, robbed her of life!

Not, however, satisfied with causing this inundation of blood, he seized a fire-brand, and proceeded to the barn and out-houses, setting fire to them all; and to complete the sum of his crime, he fired the dwelling-house, after plundering it of some articles.

The Gloucester Journal of the year 1757, describes the property consumed by fire, on this melancholy occasion, to have been “the dwelling-house, a barn full of corn, a beast-house with twelve head of cattle in it; and the farmer, his wife, and daughter were either murdered or perished in the flames!!!”

It was at first conjectured, that the unfortunate people had perished in the conflagration. Their murdered bodies, it is too true, were consumed to ashes, and the manner of their death was proved partly by what the concealed apprentice overheard, but chiefly from the murderer's own confession.

RICHARD HUGHES,

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, MAY 18, 1757, FOR FORGERY.

THIS man for some years carried on business in an extensive way, as a tailor and draper, in Arundel-street, Strand, London; and therein had acquired a capital, which he invested in a brewery, but it appears that this speculation, extending beyond the tailor's yard, did not succeed equal to the clipping of cloth.

Hughes had been intrusted by his uncle, the acting executor under his father's will, with a power of attorney, to receive considerable sums of money, due to the estate
of

of the deceased ; and while he stuck to his shopboard, he performed the trust reposed in him with a punctuality which acquired him much credit among his country relations.

The brewery, a concern with which he was totally unacquainted, soon brought him into difficulties ; and to surmount which, he fixed his thoughts upon certain South-sea stock, possessed by this uncle, and found no peace of mind until he converted it to his own use. To this end, he boldly went to the South-sea House, and asked the proper clerk for a bank warrant of attorney, to sell stock. This is always kept at the office, and it was then necessary that the power of transfer should be witnessed by the minister, church-wardens, or overseers of the poor of the parish, in which the owner lives.

All these formalities, Hughes himself soon counterfeited, and in due time presented the instrument at the South-sea House, and received upwards of five hundred pounds.

Had this ungrateful wretch suffered his iniquity to rest here, it might have remained undiscovered until he could have replaced the stock, which it may reasonably be presumed he meant to do ; but the evil genius that goads us on to the commission of crimes, ever leads us to a precipice from which the victim is annihilated. So, with Hughes, who in attempting to cover the robbery, exposed himself to detection. No sooner had he received the money, than he determined to pay a visit to the man whom he had injured.

The uncle received his nephew with much cordiality ; until the latter, lulled into security and now deserted by his tempter, among other ways of ingratiating himself farther into the old man's favours, told him that he had "brought his interest on the South-sea stock." The old gentleman did not appear to take much notice of this at the time, probably supposing he might have empowered him for that purpose ; but upon returning, he could find no authority vested in his nephew for that purpose ; yet he determined not to sift the matter while the young man remained his guest.

No sooner had Hughes departed for London, than the
uncle

uncle communicated his suspicion to the minister of the parish, who disclaimed all knowledge of witnessing any instrument which could warrant a transfer of stock.

Application was then made to the South-sea House, when the forgery was evident. The minister's Christian-name was mistaken, and no such persons as the other pretended witnesses could be found.

This was the sum of the evidence given on his trial at the Old Bailey; and on which he was consequently convicted and executed.

The prosecution was instituted by the Board of Directors of the South-sea Company.

WILLIAM ADAMS,

(A Custom-house Officer in London,)

EXECUTED AT TYBURN, ON THE 18th OF MAY 1757, FOR FORGERY.

OF the various arts used in the commission of this offence, which these pages enumerate, there is none less excusable than that practised by William Adams.

A man who can be guilty of a breach of public trust, and disgrace his office by a vile forgery, deserves but a small portion of pity.

The department in which this man served the public was, to examine certificates of over entries on the duties on wines. This gave him an opportunity of committing the crime for which he suffered, with the greatest security, and it is possible he might long have continued the practice, had not an accidental omission of a date led to the discovery.

It was usual for merchants landing their wines to pay the duty; but if upon trial, they appeared to be so damaged as not to be saleable, upon a proper application, and giving up the wines for the king's use, they were furnished with such certificates as entitles them to the repayment of the duty.

It was a certificate of this kind that Adams forged; and though such certificates are usually signed by six different persons,

persons, who are severally checks upon each other, yet he had counterfeited the names and signatures of all these, and actually received the drawback on ten tons of damaged wines, amounting to 252*l.* for the use of Phineas Coats, in whose name the certificate was forged; but it being immediately discovered, that a figure in the date was wanting, and he offering to supply it himself, a suspicion arose, and an inquiry was occasioned; upon which it was found, that not one of the clerks whose signatures appeared, knew any thing of the matter.

Adams was apprehended, committed, and brought to trial at the Old Bailey for this forgery.

He had little to urge in his defence, further than that it had been a practice to receive such certificates as cash; that he had received this particular certificate as such; and that if it was forged, he knew nothing of the forgery. This had no weight against the evidence which appeared against him, in the opinion of the jury, who, without hesitation, pronounced him guilty.

He was executed on the same gallows with Richard Hughes, whose case was last related; and with John M'Lary and Michael Sullivan, for inlisting a soldier into the service of the King of Prussia.

JAMES WHITE and WALTER WHITE,

(Brothers and Confederates in a daring Burglary,)

EXECUTED AT KENNINGTON COMMON, APRIL 19, 1758.

THERE is something additionally wounding to sensibility, when brothers embark together in the dangerous and destructive pursuit of plunder.

These men were natives of Surrey, and had resided in the neighbourhood of Guildford and Godalming. They were long accounted lazy sottish fellows, seldom seen at labour, yet ever sneaking about, and tippling in public-houses. Their supply of money to support these low and idle debaucheries had been long suspected, yet, though many petty larcenies had been committed in the

neighbourhood, yet no charge had been brought forward against them.

At length, however, justice, though slow, yet sure, overtook them. They were apprehended on suspicion of committing a robbery and burglary in the house of Mr. Robert Vincent, a farmer of Crawley, in the said county, in consequence of information being given against them by an accomplice, who, in fact, seduced them into the robbery; a depredation of a magnitude which they had not before attempted.

Being arraigned at the Lent assizes held at Kingston, in the year 1758, it appeared in evidence on their trial, that the prisoners, James and Walter White, in company with a third person, did, in the night time, break into and enter the house of Mr. Robert Vincent. Their conduct was marked with cruelty; they beat Mr. Vincent inhumanly, and threatened to burn him alive, if he did not discover where his money was hid. They then robbed him of four pounds and eighteen shillings in silver, one Portugal piece, value thirty-six shillings, two guineas and a half, and various other articles.

They were found guilty on the clearest evidence. At the place of execution they acknowledged the justice of their sentence, but reflected, in terms of much bitterness, on their accomplice, who they protested decoyed them from their work, by telling them how very easily money might be obtained by house-breaking.

While these unhappy men were yet struggling for life, an infant, of about nine months old, was put into the hands of the executioner, who nine times passed the hands of each of the dying men over its face. The child had a wen on its cheek, and the ignorant superstitious mother conceived it could be cured by dead men's hands!

The eldest of these unfortunate brothers was twenty-three, and the other had but just turned twenty-one years of age.

JOSEPH

JOSEPH HALSEY,

(An American, Mate of a West-Indiaman,)

EXECUTED AT EXECUTION-DOCK, MARCH 14, 1759, FOR MURDER.

THE disposition of this man was perfectly similar to that of Captain Lowry ; an account of whose cruelties, and the murder for which he was executed, will be found in pages 439 to 444.

Joseph Halsey was born of respectable parents in New England, who gave him an education fit for a navigator. He was, when he committed the murder in question, mate of the ship *Amazon*, commanded by Captain Gallop. This vessel sailed from Jamaica for London, the latter end of June, or the beginning of July, having on board Captain Gallop, Halsey the mate, four men, John Faher, Daniel Davidson, John Edwards, and Robert Green ; and two boys, Thomas Symmes and William Mitchell.

Mitchell was about sixteen years of age, and Symmes seems to have been older. About a week after the *Amazon* left Jamaica, the captain was taken ill, and confined to his cabin, the command therefore devolved upon Halsey ; about the same time, also, the vessel sprung a leak, so that her hands were obliged to pump to keep her clear. Halsey, as soon as he took the command of the ship, began to treat the men with great brutality, abusing and beating them without cause or mercy ; complaint was frequently made to the captain, and he was frequently alarmed in his cabin by the cry of murder ; but he was not able to afford the sufferers redress, only he said to Halsey, "Halsey, we have but few men, and if you murder them, who must take care of the ship?" The captain's remonstrance, however, produced no effect, and soon after it became necessary to pump. Edwards and Davidson were taken ill ; this afforded Halsey's cruelty a new subject of gratification ; he compelled the sick to work as long as those that were well, and perceiving that they were feeble, and not able to clear the same quantity of water in the same time, he compelled them to continue

pumping double the time that was allotted to the rest ; the men, indeed, compassioned the poor sufferers, and voluntarily offered to pump for them, or assist them while they were pumping, but this Halsey would not suffer.

The captain, in the mean time, hearing the poor fellows were sick, sent them out some of his fresh provision from his table, which Halsey would not suffer them to eat ; neither did his diabolical barbarity stop here ; he did not only beat them without mercy, sometimes with a board, sometimes with a mopstick, and sometimes with a rope ; but when their watch was over, he prohibited them the refreshment of shelter and sleep, and insisted upon poor Davidson's standing upon deck all night in the rain, at a time when he could scarce stand on his legs, and had a right to have been in his hammock.

As the Amazon was in a fleet, and under convoy, it was often proposed to Halsey to send the two poor sick wretches on board a man of war, that the surgeon might take them under cure, and that two effective men might be sent on board in their stead ; but this Halsey refused, though he knew if he made the request it would have been granted ; when he was further urged, he said he had no cloaths fit to go on board the man of war in ; upon which both Captain Gallop and Captain Ball, captain of another vessel in the fleet, who happened to be on board the Amazon, both offered to lend him clothes, but he absolutely refused to accept them, for which it is impossible to assign any other reason than that he would not give up the pleasure he took in tormenting the men, for it was manifestly his interest to have had rather effectual men than sick on board, especially considering the condition of his vessel.

After that, he persisted in treating the sick men in the same manner, with this additional aggravation, that though he allowed every other person in the ship three quarts of water a day, he allowed them only one quart, though their sickness increased the intolerable thirst, which, in that climate, requires more than the largest of these allowances to quench.

Halsey, that he might indulge himself in contemplating the misery he produced, always caused the two sick men
to

to be upon deck whenever he was upon deck himself, whether it was or was not their watch, and used frequently to make Davidson stand with a mop held out in his hands, as a soldier holds out his musket, for many successive hours, without intermission or refreshment.

To this astonishing barbarity poor Edwards first fell a martyr; he died and was thrown overboard.

About the same time, Davidson considering his fellow-sufferer as having escaped the misery to which he was still condemned, resolved to follow him, and accordingly silently let himself down by a rope from the stern into the sea, in hopes that he should be drowned, and lose both his misery and his life together; but it happened that Halsey saw him as he rose to the surface of the water, and such was the inveteracy of his malice, that he seized a rope and leaped overboard to bring him back, declaring that "he should not escape him so," and that he would have the pleasure of tormenting him a little longer. When the poor wretch was brought on board, he was, to appearance, dead; the good captain, however, ordered him to be rolled, that the water might be discharged; and, when he came to himself, directed that he should be dry cloathed. When he was stripped, in order to fulfil these humane directions, his body appeared to be bruised almost from head to foot.

Halsey, however, did not relent; he continued tormenting him by blows, insults, labour and thirst; when he was so weak that he could not stand, Halsey forcibly drew him up by his hands, and tying him to the shrouds, first beat him, and then left him in that condition for more than an hour; when he was untied he fell down; the man that came up the next watch found him lying under the boat, on the bare deck; about four hours after he was seen lying on a sail; and in the morning he was found dead.

The captain dying at sea, and Halsey being obliged to ask the assistance of a man of war, which before he refused, obtained two men in the room of Edwards and Davidson, and brought the ship home.

He continued to beat the rest of the crew during the remainder of the voyage, notwithstanding the murders he had already committed; but when he came into port, a
complaint

complaint was made, he was taken into custody, and the facts here reduced to a narrative having been proved, he was condemned, and suffered death, without any circumstance of pain or infamy that would not have been inflicted on a petty thief who had pilfered a silk handkerchief from a passenger in the street.

If the punishment of the deliberate murderer is not too gentle, certainly the punishment of the pick-pocket is too severe; for crimes, between which there is infinite disproportion, should not surely appear to be considered as equal by the law that awards their punishment.

DOCTOR FLORENCE HENSEY,

Convicted of High Treason, and sentenced to Death on the 12th of June, 1758; respited, and then reprieved, by King George the Second; but who received a free Pardon from King George the Third.

IN the Court of King's Bench, during the reign of King Charles the First, a gentleman, named Arthur Chuhoggen, was attainted of high treason, viz. for saying in *Spain*, "I would kill the king of *England* if I could come at him;" which was testified by the oaths of two gentlemen, beside others that justified it, *from the several relations of other men*. For further probability of his malicious intent, the officers that apprehended him at his lodgings in Drury-lane, London, deposed upon oath, that when they told him he was the king's prisoner, he bit his thumb, saying, "I care not this much for your king."

The attorney-general observed, that in *Spain*, the biting of the thumb is a token of scorn and disdain, in the highest degree; and will bear an action of disgrace in *Spain*, as spitting in one's face will in *England*. After Mr. Chuhoggen was condemned, the judges sent the sheriff to him, to know of him, whether he could alledge any other colourable intent of his coming over; but he gave no satisfaction on that point.

He was hanged, drawn, and quartered, on the 27th of November, 1617, and he then wished that he might never
enter



DOCTOR HENSEY.

enter the kingdom of Heaven, if ever he had uttered the words for which he was condemned.

The above is an extract from a curious manuscript letter, from Mr. Justinian Pagitt, then a lawyer of Lincoln's Inn, to Dr. Twysden, chancellor of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. It will present the reader with a specimen of *king-craft*, in the reign of the monarch who lost his head!

Such was the definition of treason formerly, and punishment inflicted on a man who would now have been looked upon as a madman, for no one in his senses, for any earthly purpose, could utter such incoherencies.

In comparing the cases of Chuhoggen and Hensey, we are much surprised at the extension of royal mercy to the one, as at the barbarous punishment of the other.

Martin Nowland, as we have already shewn, (vol. ii. p. 93,) was executed for attempting to enlist Englishmen for the service of France; and Thomas Hemmings suffered death for doing the same for the king of Prussia; yet Hensey, whose crime was ten-fold greater, was pardoned.

De la Motte, the particulars of whose case we shall hereafter give, was "hanged, drawn, and quartered," for the same kind of offence which Hensey committed: and in still more recent times, numbers have suffered death for similar treason; and yet we have to observe, without finding any especial reason for it, that Doctor Hensey was pardoned. If granted from political motives, it must have been in fear of Spain; an unworthy impulse of the ministers of a far greater and more powerful nation.

Dr. Hensey was a native of the county of Kildare in Ireland, brought up a Roman Catholic, and taught the rudiments of grammar by a priest of that persuasion.

Being sent to St. Omer's to study philosophy, he continued there till the degree of master of arts was conferred on him, and then proceeded to Leyden, where he studied physic. From Leyden he went through Germany and Switzerland into Italy, acquiring the knowledge of the respective languages during his travels.

Embarking at Genoa, he sailed to Lisbon, and, crossing the kingdom of Portugal, went to Spain, and thence to France, endeavouring in his tour to make himself mas-

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ter of the Portuguese and Spanish languages. Having reached Paris, he practised physic in that city five years ; but being unsuccessful, he repaired to London.

His success in England was not superior to that in France. His patients were few, and those of the lower rank of people. From his quitting the university of Leyden, he had corresponded with a brother collegian, who, having settled in France, procured a place in the office of the secretary of state at Paris.

When Dr. Hensey heard of his friend's promotion, he wrote him a letter of congratulation, in which he made a civil offer of executing any of his commands in London.

This happening at the commencement of a war between Great Britain and France, Hensey's friend informed him, that he might be very serviceable by transmitting early intelligence of our warlike preparations. This hint being approved by the Doctor, the next post brought him instructions how to act, with an appointment of near twenty-five pounds per month.

The substance of these instructions were "to send complete lists of all our men of war, both in and out of commission ; their condition, situation, and number of men on board each ; when they sailed, under what commanders, from what ports, and their destination ; an account of the actual number of our troops, what regiments were complete, and where quartered or garrisoned."

Dr. Hensey sent such accounts as he could procure to a gentleman at Cologne, who sent them to another at Berne in Switzerland, whence they were transmitted to Paris. Hensey's salary, ample as it was, proved unequal to the expectations he had formed : but he proceeded, in the hopes of an increase of it.

His first attempt to acquire intelligence was by getting into company with the clerks of the public offices ; but not succeeding in this, he frequented the coffee-houses used by the members of parliament : and his physical appearance taking off all suspicion of his being a spy, he frequently learned such particulars as he thought worth sending to his employers.*

* Though this may seem an extraordinary method of procuring secret intelligence, it is no more than what is practised daily by the writers of the newspapers.

He never entered into political discussion if he could avoid it, and when he did, always spoke on the government side of the question, professing enmity to the French; so that, though a Catholic, he was long unsuspected.

His letters from Paris were sent by the way of Switzerland, whence they were transmitted to the post-office in London, and directed to him at a coffee-house in the Strand, by a fictitious name. A suspicion arose that these letters and their answers, which appeared to contain only a few lines of compliment, (as might be seen through the covers,) were in fact a disguise for something of greater importance; and this suspicion increasing by their frequency, the secretary of the post-office at length opened some of those from Hensey, in one of which, dated from Twickenham, he read, between the lines written with ink, another epistle written with lemon-juice, advising the French to land on the English coast.

The letters were read by being held to the fire, and the utmost diligence was used to discover the writer, and learn his real name; for which purpose a person was placed at the coffee-house to which they were directed, who followed him to his lodgings in Arundel-street, after he had received one of them.

On the following Sunday, Hensey, on his return from the Spanish ambassador's chapel in Soho-square, was seized by two of the King's messengers, and after repeated examination before the secretary of state, was committed to Newgate for high-treason. The grand jury of Middlesex found a true bill against him in Easter term, 1758; but the trial was removed, by writ of certiorari, into the Court of King's-bench; here he pleaded not guilty.

A copy of his indictment was granted, and counsel directed by the court to plead for him. On his trial, which took place before Lord Mansfield, in Westminster-Hall, the gentlemen of the post-office swore to the finding a number of letters in his bureau, and his handwriting was proved by some apothecaries who had made up his prescriptions.

The doctor's counsel pleaded a defect in the indictment, because the letters were intercepted at the Post-office, which was in London ; whereas the offence, if any, was committed in Middlesex ; the grand jury of which county could have no right to find a bill for an offence committed in London.

The counsel for the crown replied, that though the letters had been intercepted at the Post-office, the offence on which the indictment was founded had been committed at Twickenham, as appeared by the date of the letter. They further urged, that the solicitor of the treasury might have laid the indictment in the city of London ; but he preferred fixing it in the county, because the letter from Twickenham was of the most dangerous tendency, and the other letters were to be considered only as collateral evidence against the prisoner.

Dr. Hensey's counsel now objected, that the writing a treasonable letter was not an overt-act of high-treason, except this letter was published : in answer to which it was insisted, that the delivery of it at the Post-office was an actual publication of it. The doctor's counsel farther said, that he had not corresponded with the enemies of the King ; for we were not at war with the Dutch, and the letters were directed to people in Holland.

The evidences having proved, that the letter dated at Twickenham contained an invitation to the French to invade this kingdom, that was considered as an overt-act of high-treason ; on which the plea of the prisoner was overruled, and the evidence was summed up by Lord Mansfield.

Dr. Hensey had hitherto supported himself with courage ; but, during the absence of the jury, which was about three quarters of an hour, he trembled excessively, and gave every proof of the greatest agitation of mind. On their return, he had scarcely strength to hold up his hand at the bar. A verdict of guilty being pronounced, he was brought up to receive sentence on the Wednesday following, after which he begged a fortnight to make proper preparation for his death : but the court generously granted him a month.

A respite was sent for him early on the morning on which

which he was to have been executed, and afterwards a reprieve during the King's pleasure. After this he continued above three years in Newgate, and then embarked for France, on obtaining a free pardon.

At the time Hensey was apprehended, his brother was secretary and chaplain to the Spanish ambassador at the Hague. To this brother he wrote an account of his misfortunes; in consequence of which the Spanish ambassador at London was applied to by the gentleman in similar office at the Hague; and such representations were made to the English ministry, that the reprieve above-mentioned followed; though King George the Second could not be prevailed on to grant him a free pardon: but soon after the accession of George the Third, this pardon was granted, and the prisoner discharged, on giving the usual security for his good behaviour.

JOHN STEVENSON,

Convicted of the Murder of Francis Elcock, an Attorney at Law, who had issued a Writ against him.

THIS offender was a cheesefactor at Bickerton, and becoming insolvent, fortified himself in his house, and admitted nobody within the doors for fear of an arrest.

A writ was issued out against him by Elcock, at the suit of one Atkins, for eighteen pounds eight shillings and tenpence; a warrant was made out upon the writ by one Baxter, who, by verbal appointment, acted for the under sheriff. This warrant was delivered sealed to Elcock, or his agent, directed to one John Evans, a bailiff, and a blank left in it for the names of any other person by whom the attorney should think fit to have it executed, such being the custom of the place; after the warrant had been thus sealed and delivered, Elcock inserted the names of John James and John Jones, who were deemed bailiffs extraordinary for this particular arrest; and as they had not given the usual bond, Elcock undertook, by an indorsement on the warrant, to indemnify the sheriff from any injury he might suffer by the act

of John James and John Jones, to whom he had committed the execution of it.

John James found means to get into Stevenson's house by stratagem, and arrested him upon this warrant; but Stevenson rescued himself by snapping a pistol three times at James, which happily missing fire, James escaped, and left his prisoner behind him.

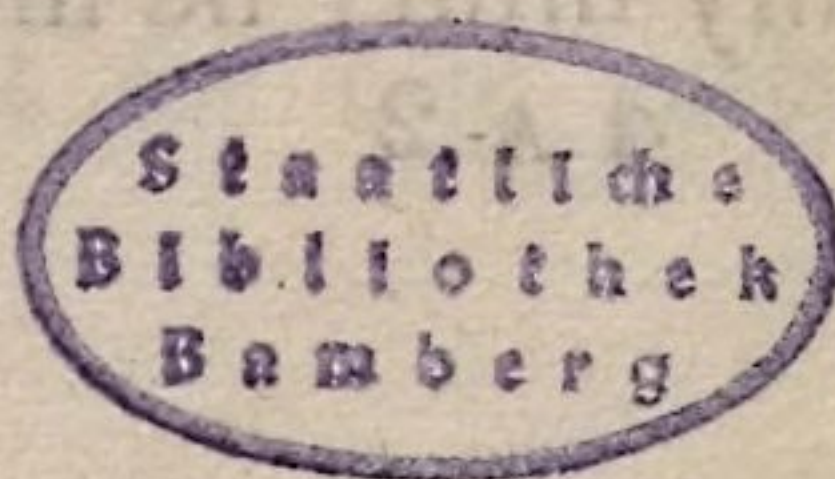
When Elcock learnt that Stevenson had been arrested and rescued himself, he immediately sent for arms, and a crow to break open the door, and retake him by force.

Several persons soon after assembled armed, and with the bailiffs beset the house; James had put an iron crow under one door of the house, and made an attempt to force it off the hinges; but failing, he left Elcock at that door with the crow lying under it, directing him to watch that Stevenson did not escape, and went himself to another door; when James was gone, Elcock took up the crow, and while he was making another effort, Stevenson discharged a gun through the door at him, which gave him a mortal wound, of which he died in about ten hours.

The facts were all proved, but it was insisted by the counsel for the prisoner, that the warrant was not good, because it was issued by a person who had no legal delegation of authority from the sheriff to grant it, verbal appointment being insufficient; that the insertion of the names of the bailiffs by whom the warrant was to be executed, after it was sealed, made it an illegal warrant; and that Elcock, not being justified in the act he was doing when he was shot, the killing him was not murder.

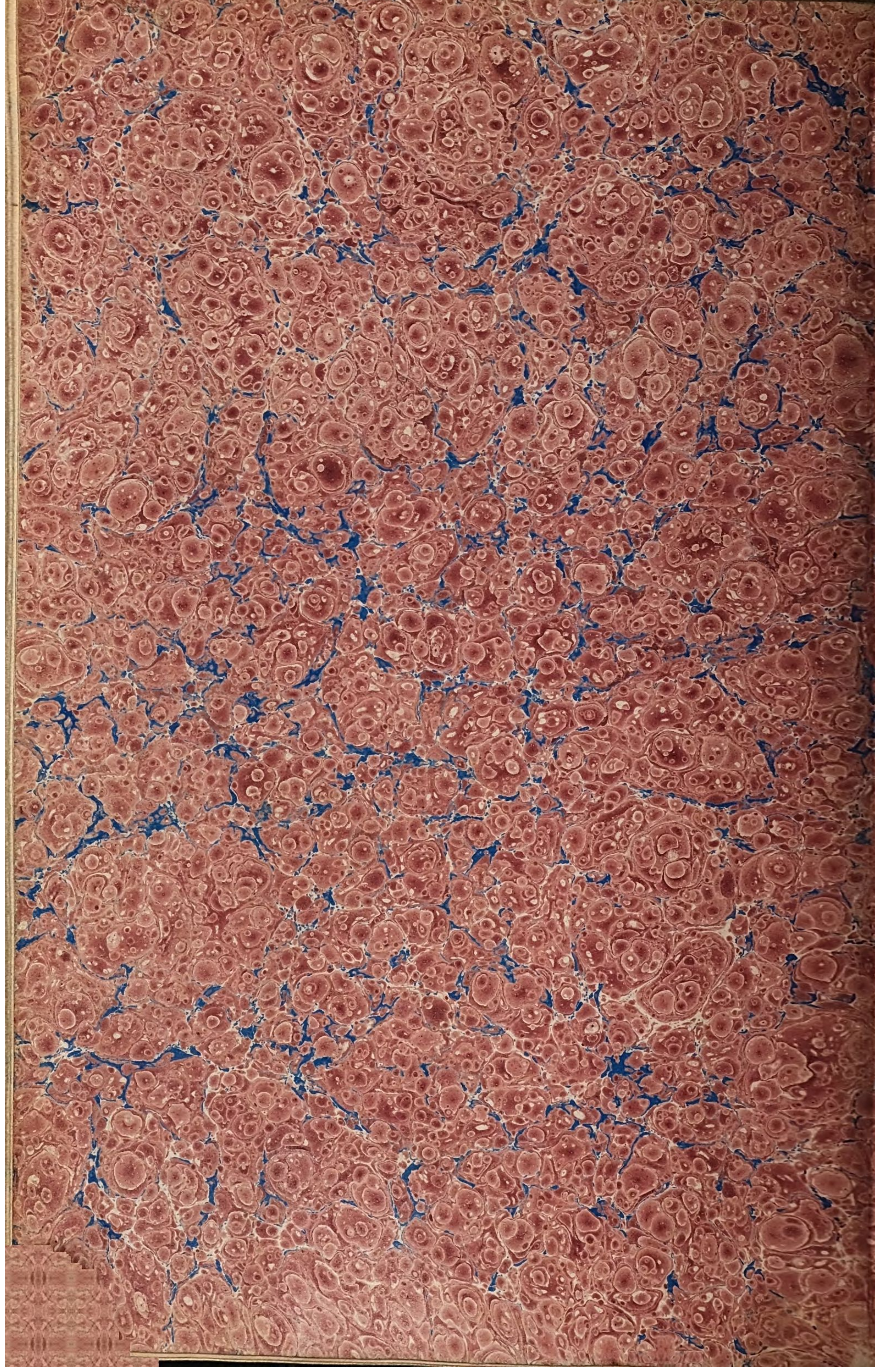
The court directed the jury to bring in a special verdict, which was accordingly done; and on the 6th of May, 1759, the case was argued before Mr. Justice Noel and Thomas White, Esq. the Justices of Chester, who gave their opinion, that the prisoner's crime could amount at most to man-slaughter only. Whereupon he was burnt in the hand, and discharged from the capital part of the indictment.

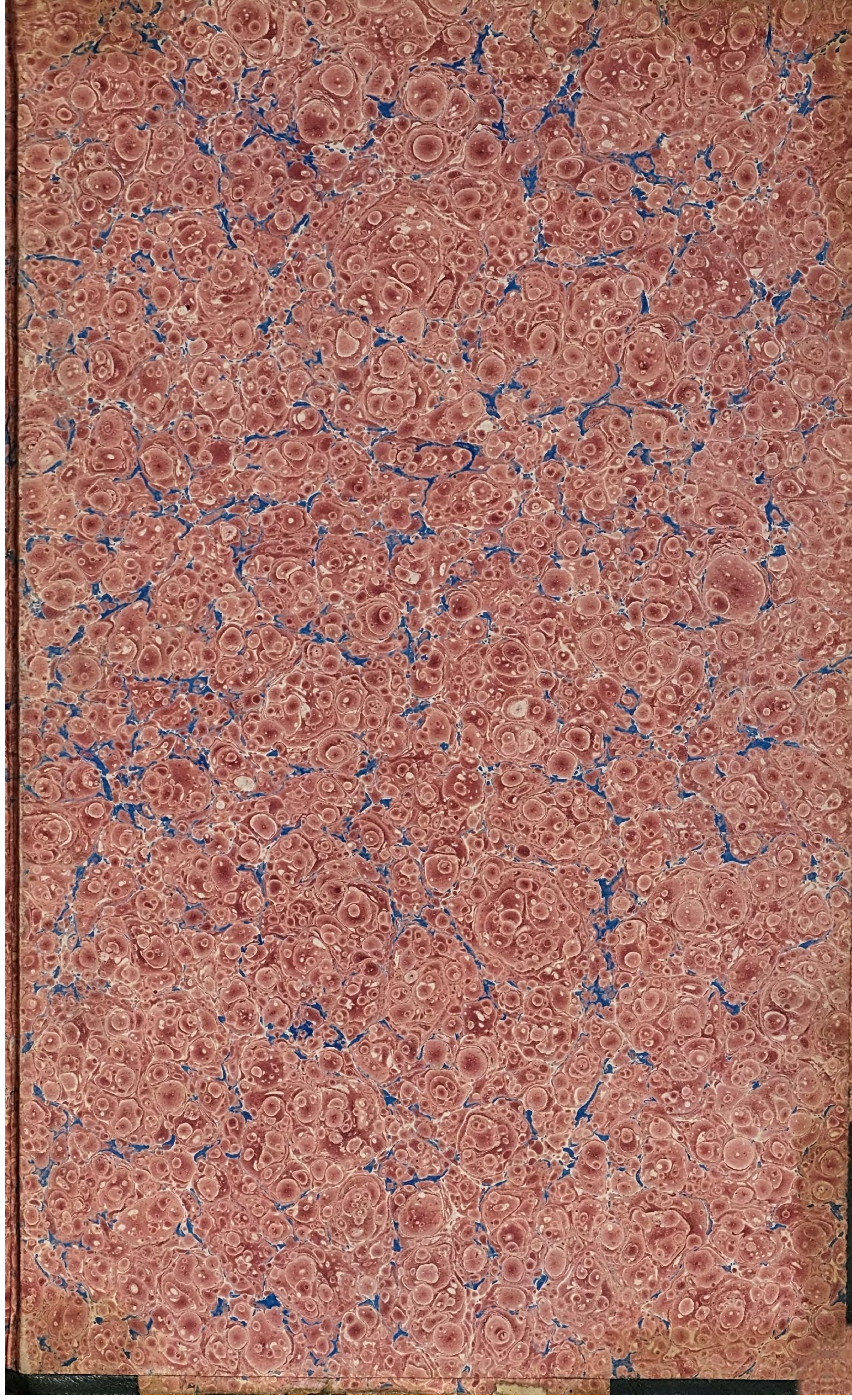
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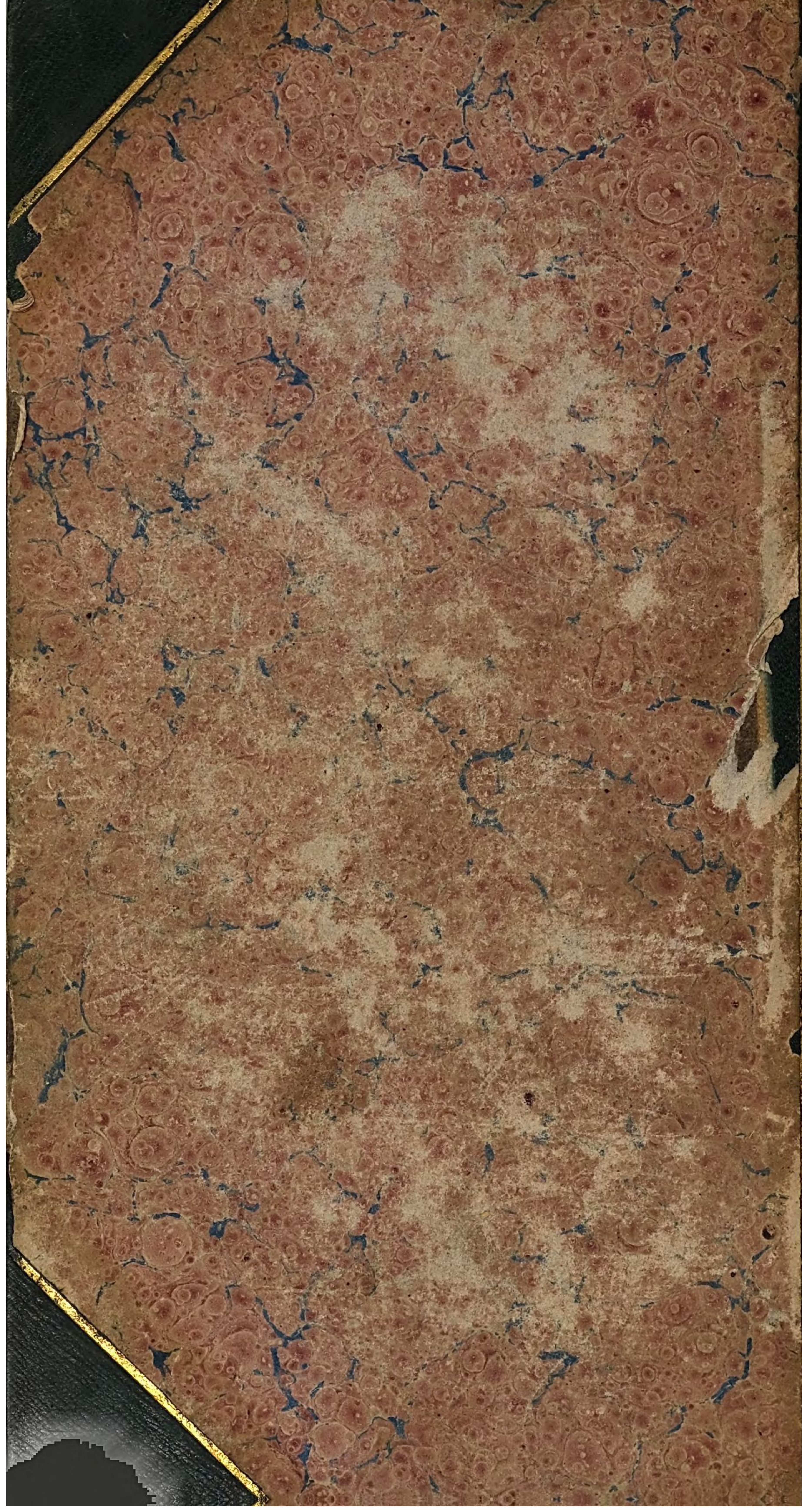


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Knapp, Andrew / Knapp, Andrew / Baldwin, William

The new Newgate calendar being interesting memoirs of notorious characters,
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